

# Il Cherenkov Telescope Array: un Osservatorio sull'Universo estremo



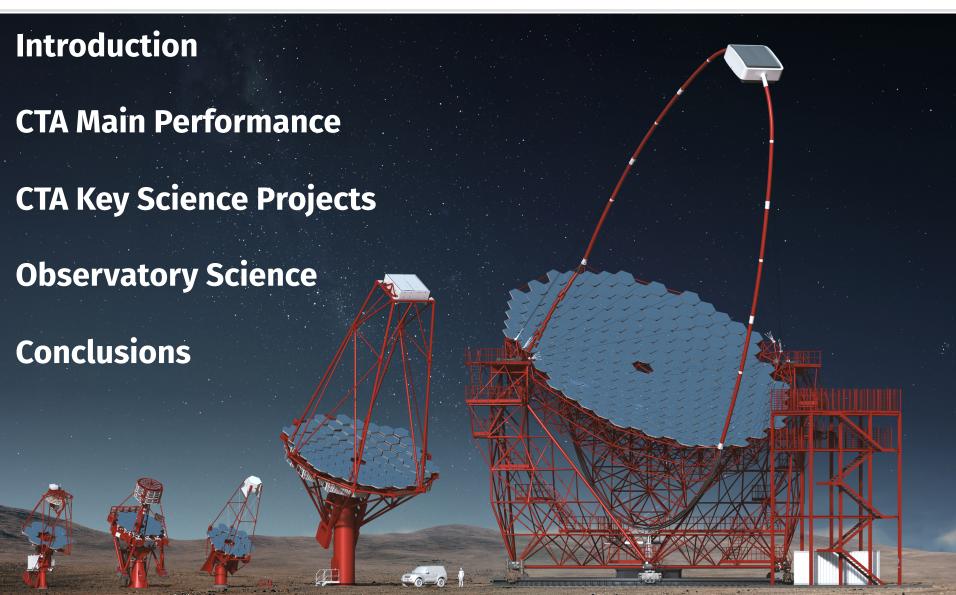
Stefano Vercellone (INAF – OA Brera)

stefano.vercellone@brera.inaf.it



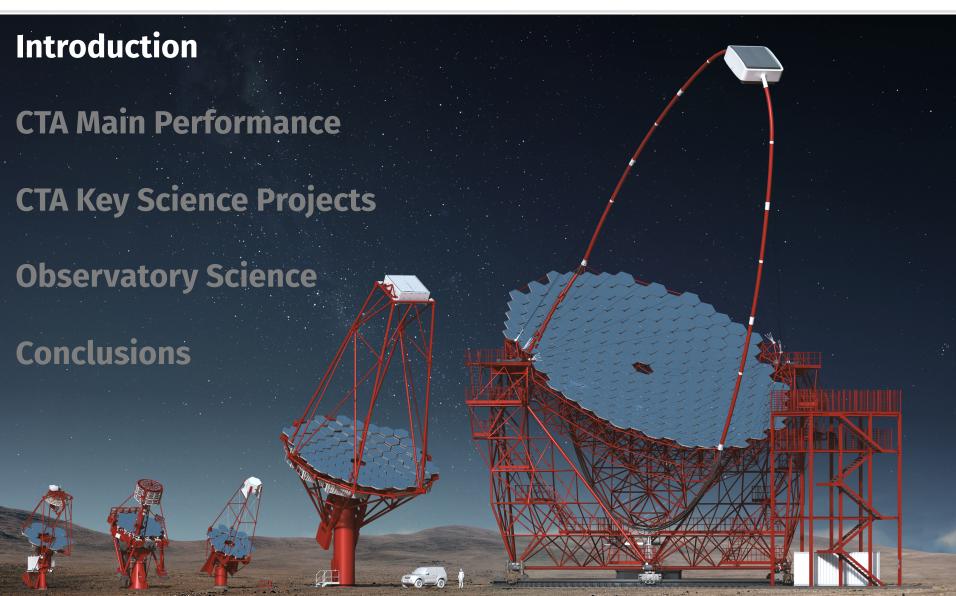
#### **Outline**



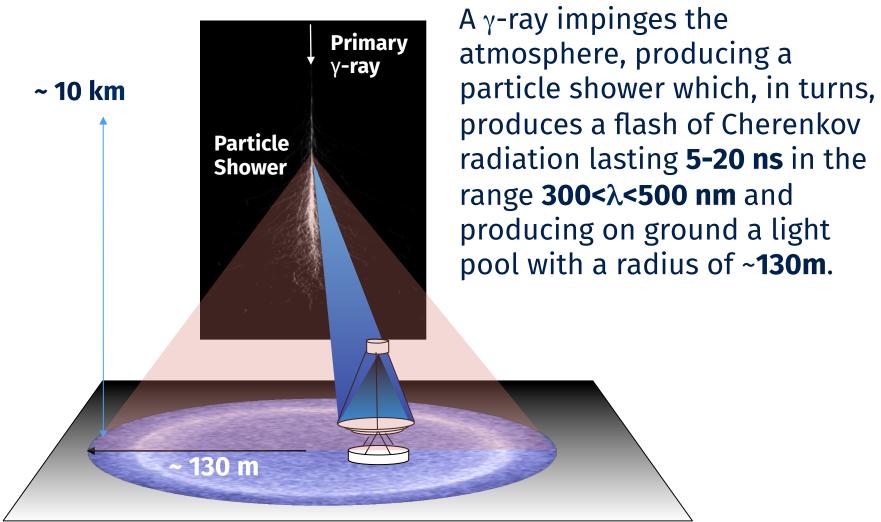


#### **Outline**

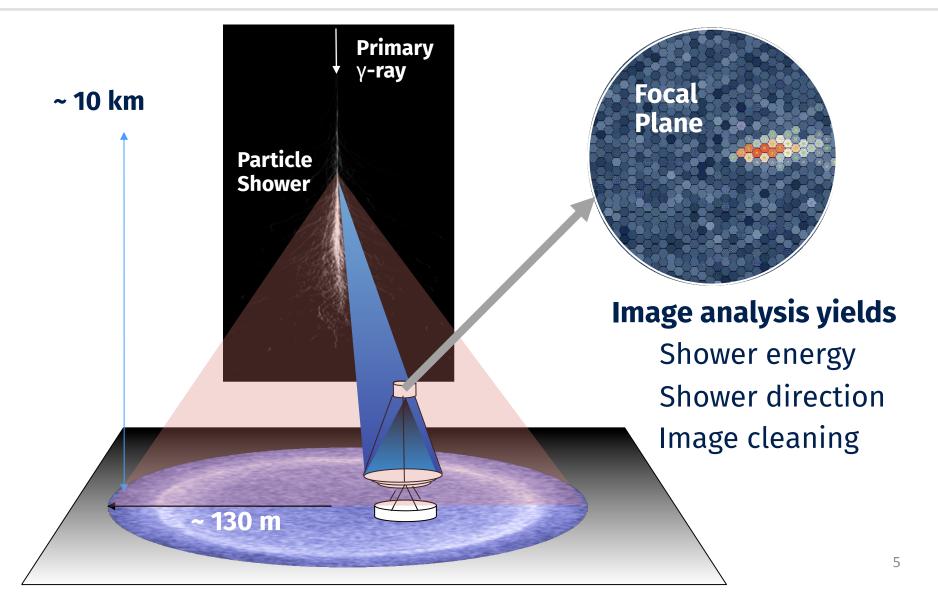




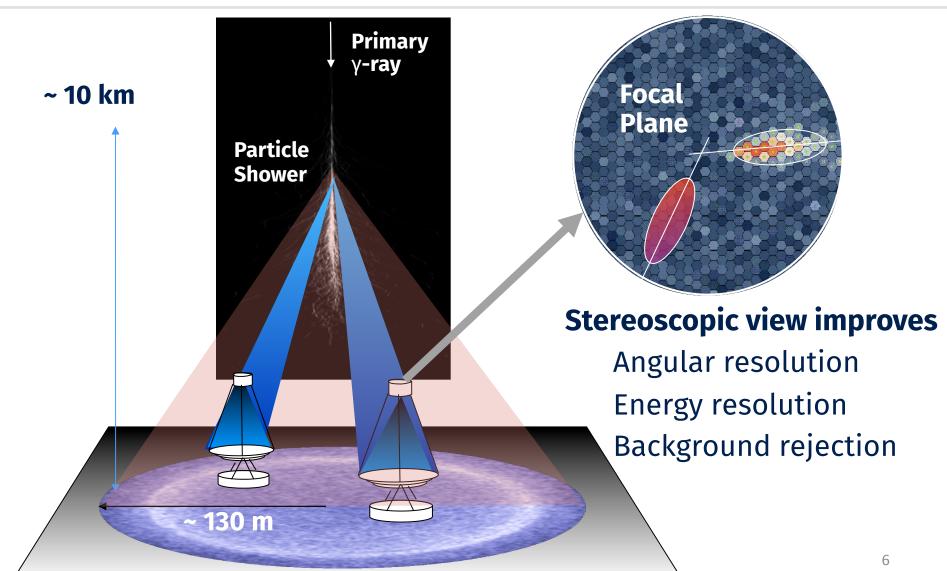




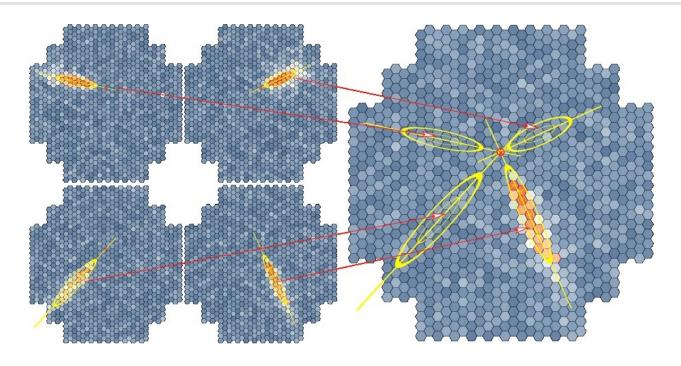












The intersection of major axes on the common FOV gives source position on the sky.

More on the Cherenkov technique, sources and physics in: Hinton & Hofmann, 2009, ARAA, 47, 523

#### **The current IACT status**









### VHE high-level timeline



CERENKOV LIGHT IMAGES OF EAS PRODUCED BY PRIMARY GAMMA RAYS AND BY NUCLEI

A. M. Hillas Physics Department University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, UK.

It is shown that it should be possible to distinguish a effectively between background hadronic showers and TeV showers from a point source on the basis of the width. orientation of the Cerenkov light images of the shower, the focal plane of a focusing mirror, even with a relati coarse pixel size such as employed in the Mt. Hopkins do

 Detection of point sources of cosmic rays
 Certain X-ray binaries, pulsars and active galaxies app point sources of TeV cosmic rays - presumed to be gamma-rays ces have been detected by observing flashes of Cerenkov radi small showers in the upper atmosphere, but these do not stand against the intense isotropic background of ordinary proton showers. If the appearance of the Cerenkov flashes differs ( classes of shower, much of the background night be rejected. paper. Cawley et al. (1) describe the modification of the 10% paper, usually at all (a) useries used to record data. the Whitple Observatory (Mt. Ropkins, Arisons) to record data. Cerenkev image on a 0.5° grid, using 37 photosultipliers in (plane of the focusing mirror. (A central photosultiplier is a ring of 6 others, then by a further ring of 12, and another the contral property of the second contral contra whole forming a hexagonal grid pattern.) Predictions of the this system to air showers will be presented. Even though the widths of shower images are less than 0.5°, the image dinens measured well enough to provide discrimination between types though the alignment of the short image with the source will clear than with finer angular resolution.

 Simulation of Cerenkov image patterns
 A 3-dimensional Monte-Cerlo calculation is used to sis development. The computer program has been used previously
 vestigations (2) and is much more detailed than is necessary ting Cerenkov processes, following particles down to an ener (far below the Cerenkov threshold), although "thin sampling" to follow particles below 1/4000 of the primary energy to res time. The model atmosphere is not isothermal. Madronic coll been simulated both by a radial scaling model with rising croand by a model with increased production of low-energy second: tive to scaling) at high primary energies (though a less drasthan proposed by Wdowczyk and Wolfendale, for example, as the particles in the fragmentation region - high x - are largel; yever, at TeV energies, there is little difference between constrained by accelerator data, so the simulation resu ed together in the presentations below.

hough some loss of Cerenkov light by Rayleigh and s allowed for (2), scattered light is assumed not to the image (size <10) in a clear mountain atmo-

T - Provided by the NASA Astrophysical

The basics

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THE ASSESSMENT OF SECURISION AND STREET, 1981 AND STREET,

#### Weeks et al. 1989

OBSERVATION OF TAY GAMMA RAYS FROM THE CRAB NEBULA USING THE ATMOSPHERIC CERENKOV IMAGING TECHNIQUE

T. C. WHERE, M. F. CAWLEY, D. J. FIGGO, K. G. GIRR, A. M. HILLAS, P. W. KWOK, R. C. LADR, D. A. LEWIS, D. MACORIS, N. A. PORTIER, P. T. REYNGLES, 3.5 AND G. VACANTI Reserved 1989 August 1: accepted 1988 December 9

#### ABSTRACT

The Whipple Observatory 10 m reflector, operating as a 37 pixel camera, has been used to observe the Crab Nebula in TeV gamma rays. By selecting gamma-ray images based on their predicted properties, more than 98% of the background is rejected; a detection is reported at the 9.0  $\sigma$  level, corresponding to a flux of 1.8  $\times$  10  $^{-1.1}$  photons cm<sup>2</sup> s  $^{-1}$  above 0.7 TeV (with a factor of 1.5 uncertainty in both flux and energy). Less than 25% of the observed flux is pulsed at the period of PSR 0531. There is no evidence for variability on time scales from months to years. Although continuum emission from the pulsar cannot be ruled out, it seems more likely that the observed flux comes from the hard Compton synchrotron spectrum of the nebula. Subject headings: gamma rays: general — nebulae: Crab Nebula — pulsars — radiation mechanisms

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The observation of polarization in the radio, optical, and X-ray emission from the Crab Nebula is usually taken as confirmation of the synchrotron origin of the radiation and is a strong indication of the presence in the nebula of a reservoir of relativistic electrons with energies up to 1 TeV. The presence of the radio pulsar, PSR 0531, near the center of the nebula provides a source for the on-going injection of relativistic electrons into this reservoir. The collision of the synchrotron-radiating electrons with synchrotron-radiated photons within the nebula inevitably results in a hard photon spectrum (at some level) that extends from the X-ray into the gamma-ray energy range; the shape of the spectrum mirrors that of the soft whoten see: trum but with greatly reduced intensity. The Compton synchrotron model of the nebula was first developed by Gould (1965) and was refined by Ricke and Weekes (1969) and by Grindley and Hoffmann (1971). A strong flux of gamma suss was predicted with maximum luminosity in the 0.1-1.0 TeV energy range. The gamma-ray flux level depends on the strength of the nebular magnetic field, which is a free parameter in the model and is little constrained by observations at other wavelengths. However, based on equipartition arguments, it is estimated to be  $\sim 10^{-3}$ 

The observation of a flux of 0.14 TeV gamma rays from the Crab Nebula was reported by the Anithsonian group using the atmospheric Cerenkov technique (10) or al. 1972); based on observations that spanned 3 years, e weakness of the gue. The detecat the 3 e level. This demonstrates source and the lack of sensitivity of th source and the task of schatterity of the body soc. The detec-tion of TeV gamma rays from the Crash Section is confirma-tion of the Compton synchrotron models of a to a direct measure of the magnetic field. This measure sett, both was conservatively interpreted as an upper limit, in you are years magnetic field of 3 × 10<sup>-4</sup> G, or a radially syme with  $B_0 = 1 \times 10^{-3}$  G at a distance of 0.1 pc from (Grindlay 1976).

- St. Patrick's College, Mayacoth.
  University College, Dublin.
- University of Lends.

Subsequent to the discovery of PSR 0531 in the nebula. gamma-ray observations concentrated on the pulsar becgreater sensitivity could be achieved by the assumption of chronization of the gamma-ray emission with the periradio emission. Several detections were reported at very energies (Grindlay 1972; Jennings et al. 1974; Grind Helmken, and Weekes 1976; Porter et al. 1976; Erick Fickle, and Lamb 1976; Vishwanath 1982; Vishwanath c 1985; Gupta et al. 1977; Gibson et al. 1982b; Douthwaite 1984; Tumer et al. 1985; Bhat et al. 1986), but the statis. nificance was not high, and upper limits were also prest which appeared to be in coeffict with the reported \$\text{9}\$ (Helmken et al. 1973; Vishwanarh et al. 1986; Bhat et al. 1 At energies above 1 TeV there were also reports of omis from the direction of the Crab (Mukanov 1983; Boone / 1984; Drikowski et al. 1981; Kirov et al. 1985), but, because the limited angular resolution and the absence of acc timekeeping, it was not possible to identify the source of observed signal with the nebula or the pulsar. Again there onflicting upper limits (Craig et al. 1981; Watson 1987 100 MeV energies (which are accessible to study by s, chambers on satellites), both a pulsed and steady comp were detected (Kniffen et al. 1977; Hermsen et al. 1977; C. et al. 1987); at 1 GeV the strength of the unpulsed compo-(which might originate in the nobula or near the pulsar) is 6times that of the pulsed flux.

Using a refined version of the atmospheric Cerenkov tenique, we here report the detection of gamma rays also 0.7 TeV from the Crab Nebula at a high level of statisti significance; over the epoch 1986-1988 we find no evidence variability, and the observed flux is in agreement with rereported previously in 1969-1972 and in an earlier observa utilizing this same technique in 1983-5 (Cawley et al. ) Gibbs 1987). The observed gamma-ray flux is only 0.2% o cosmic-ray background. A periodic analysis using the kiradio period of the pulsar indicates that less than 25% bserved signal is pulsed. The detection of such a wear en a steady (nonruleed) source with a significance of 9 ground-based gamma-ray astrono-It demonstrate power of using atmospheric Cerenkov b wer imaging to tinguish gamma-ray-initiated air shows from those gr

source

Hinton & Hoffmann, 2009

>150 sources



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Teraelectronvolt Astronomy

#### J.A. Hinton<sup>1</sup> and W. Hofmann<sup>2</sup>

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Department of Physics and Astronomy, Max Planck Institut filr Kemphysik, Holdberg D-69029, Germany, email: werner.homann@mps-hd.mpg.de

Annu. Rev. Auron. Aurophys. 2009. 47:523-65

The Annual Review of Augments and Aurophysic is

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Copyrigh: (5) 2009 by Annual Reviews. 0066.4146/09/0922.0123520.00

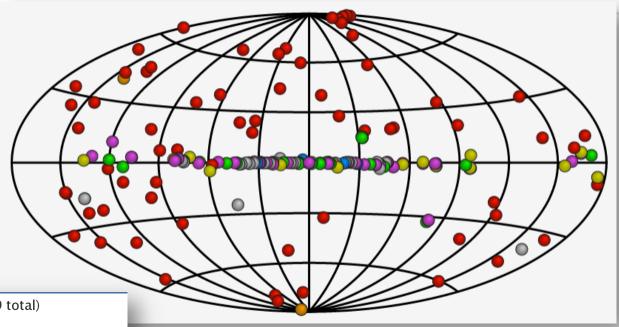
Ground-based y-ray astronomy, which provides access to the TeV energy range, is a young and rapidly developing discipline. Recent discoveries in this waveband have important consequences for a wide range of topics in astrophysics and astroparticle physics. This article is an attempt to review the experimental status of this field and to provide the basic formulae and concepts required to begin the interpretation of TeV observations.

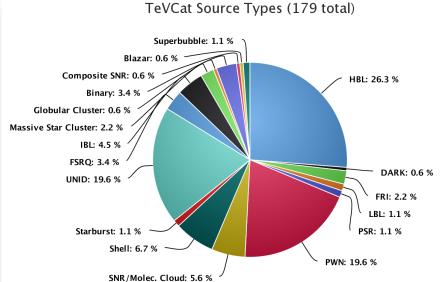
gamma-ray astronomy, high-energy astrophysics

# 100 GeV – 50 TeV sky



TeVCat 2
H.E.S.S., MAGIC, VERITAS
~180 sources
E>100 GeV

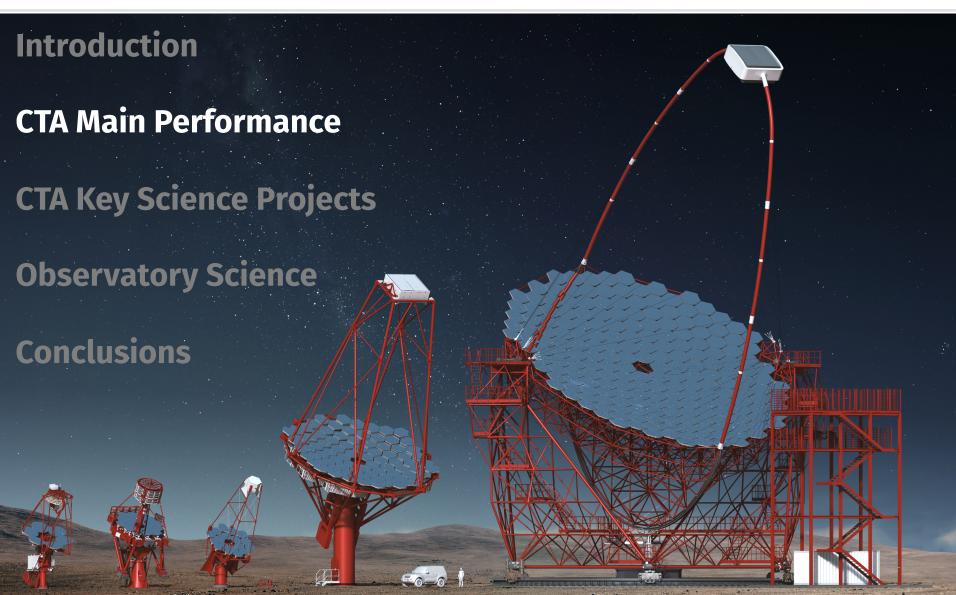




Wakely & Horan+16

#### **Outline**



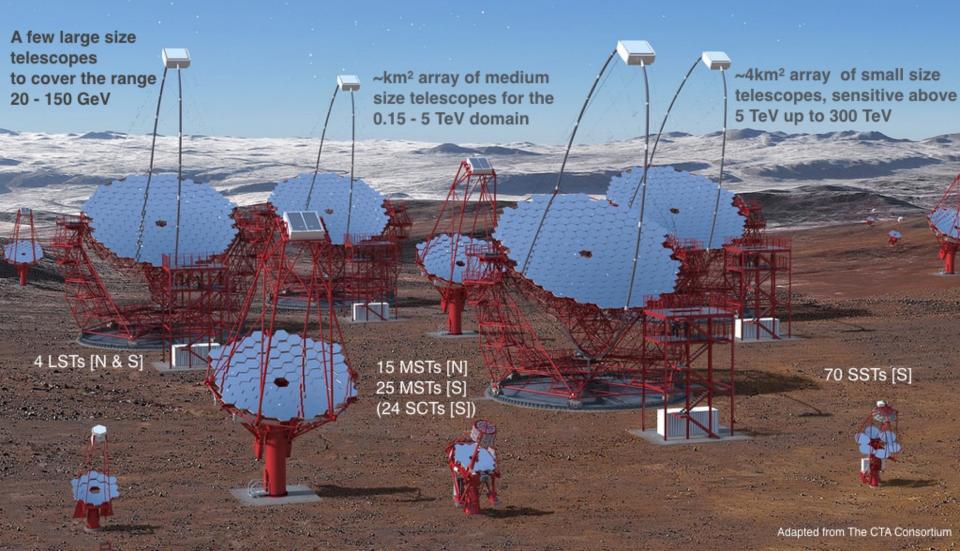


Two sites (North and South) for a whole-sky coverage

Operated as an open Observatory

# The Cherenkov Telescope Array

A factor of 5-20 more sensitive w.r.t. the current IACTs depending on the energy band



#### Where to find us





# High-level timeline and proposed layout



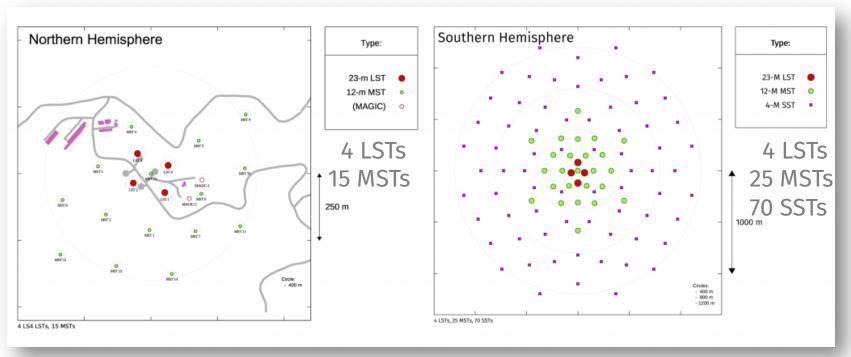
#### **Project Phases**

Pre-Construction
Current Phase

Pre-Production 2019-2021

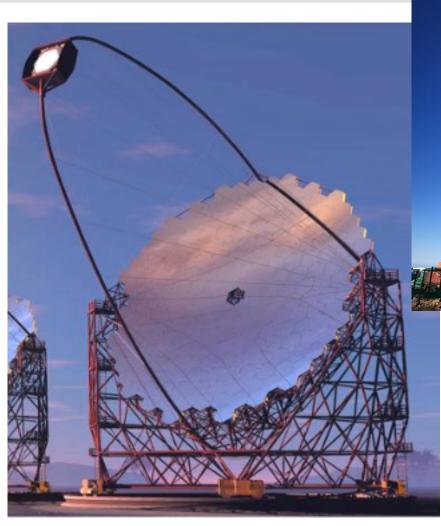
Production 2021-2025





#### **Large Size Telescope**







- La Palma LST-1 prototype operational in 2018.
- http://www.lst1.iac.es/ webcams/

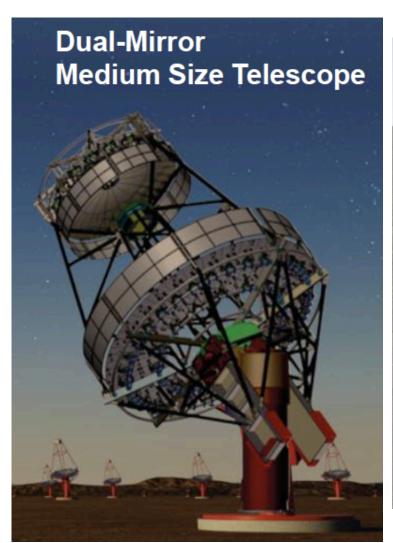
## **Medium Size Telescope Prototype**





#### **Dual-mirror MST prototype**







Credits: The CTA Consortium

### **Small size telescope prototypes**





### **ASTRI: Etna is an astronomical site...**





# ... in a peculiar environment...





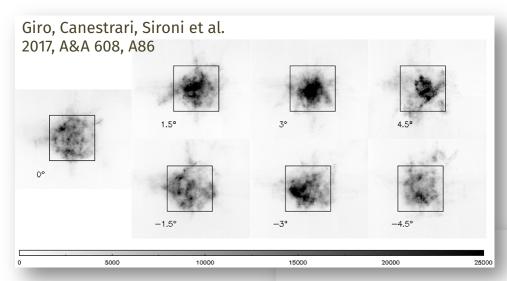
### ... where Winter may be severe...





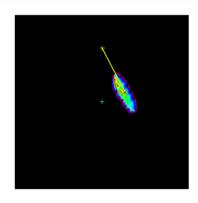
#### ... which we pass in full colours!



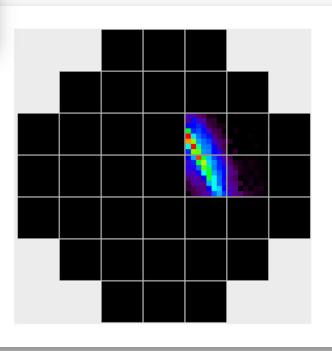


First ever optical characterization of a Schwarzschild-Couder telescope up to 4.5° off-axis.

First Cherenkov light acquired by the ASTRI camera of a shower generated by cosmic rays in the Earth's atmosphere.



Credits: ASTRI Team, May 2017



(South Site)





(South Site)



4 x 23 m Ø Large Size Telescopes (LST) ~20 GeV to ~ 1 TeV range

(South Site)



25 x 14 m Ø Medium Size Telescopes (MST) ~100 GeV to ~10 TeV range



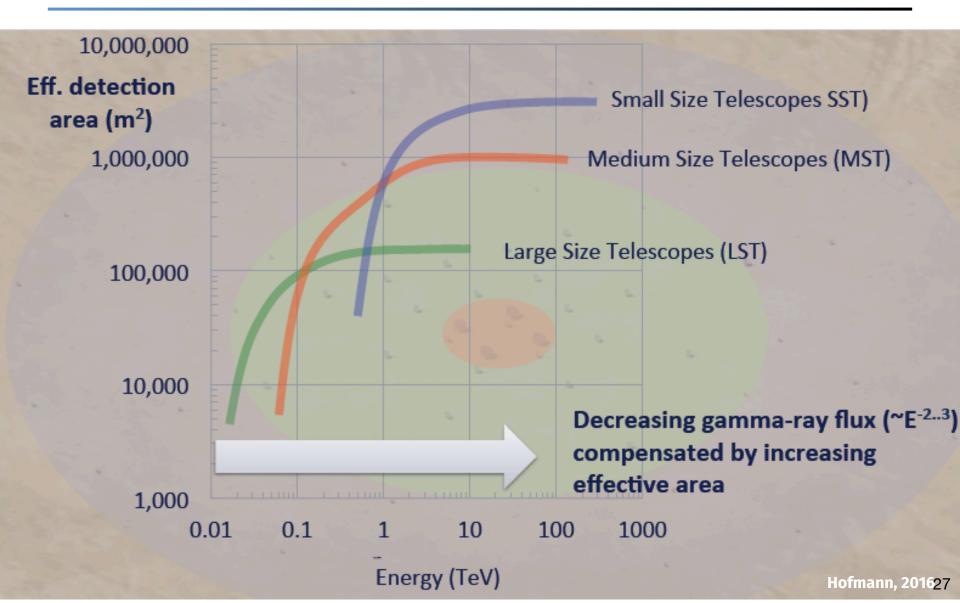
(South Site)



70 x 4 m Ø Small Size Telescopes (SST) few TeV to few 100 TeV range

# EFFECTIVE AREA FOR GAMMA-RAY DETECTION

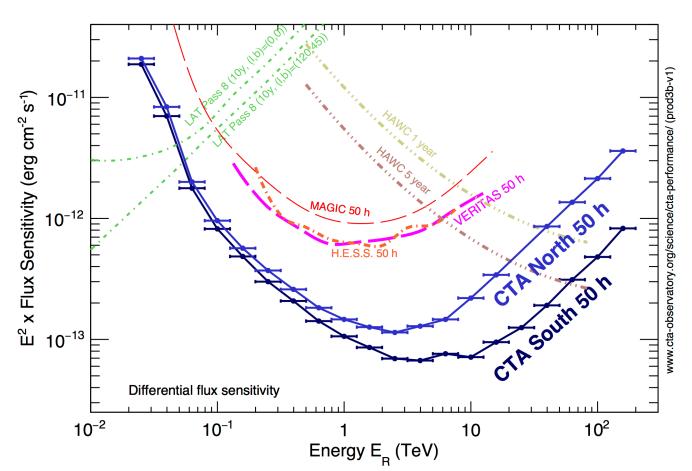




#### **CTA Performance**



#### **Differential Sensitivity**



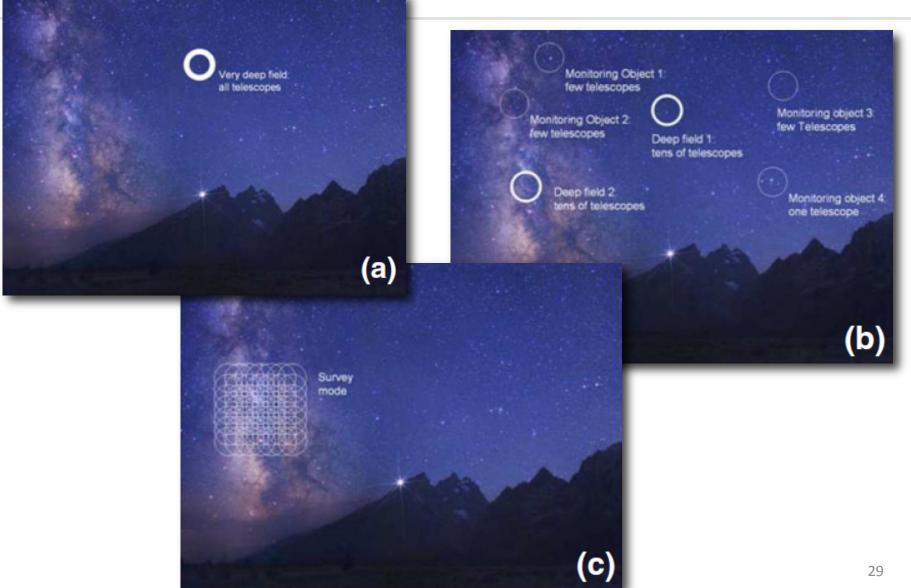
A factor of **5-20 improvement** in sensitivity depending on energy, relative to current IACTs.

Extension of the accessible energy range from well below 100 GeV to above 100 TeV.

https://www.cta-observatory.org/science/cta-performance/

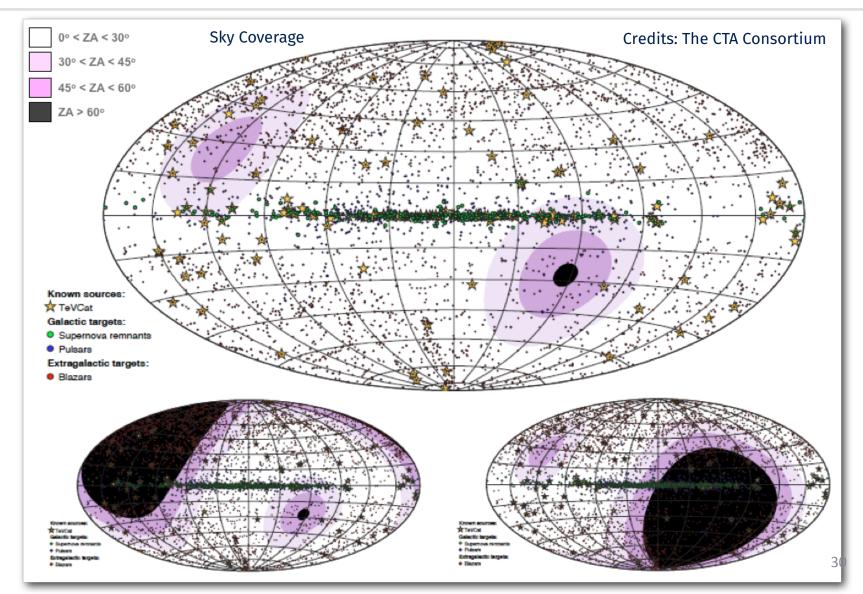
### **CTA Possible Observing Strategy**





### CTA as an *all-sky* Observatory

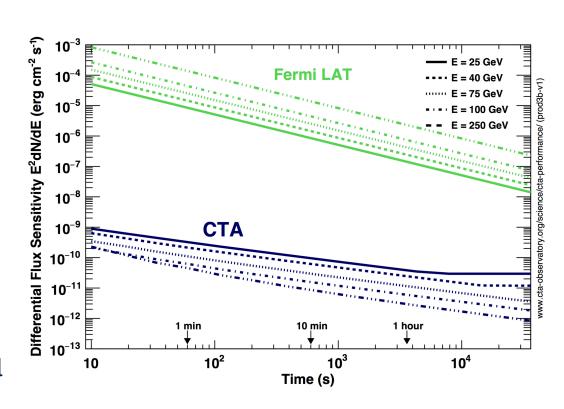




#### CTA as a transient factory

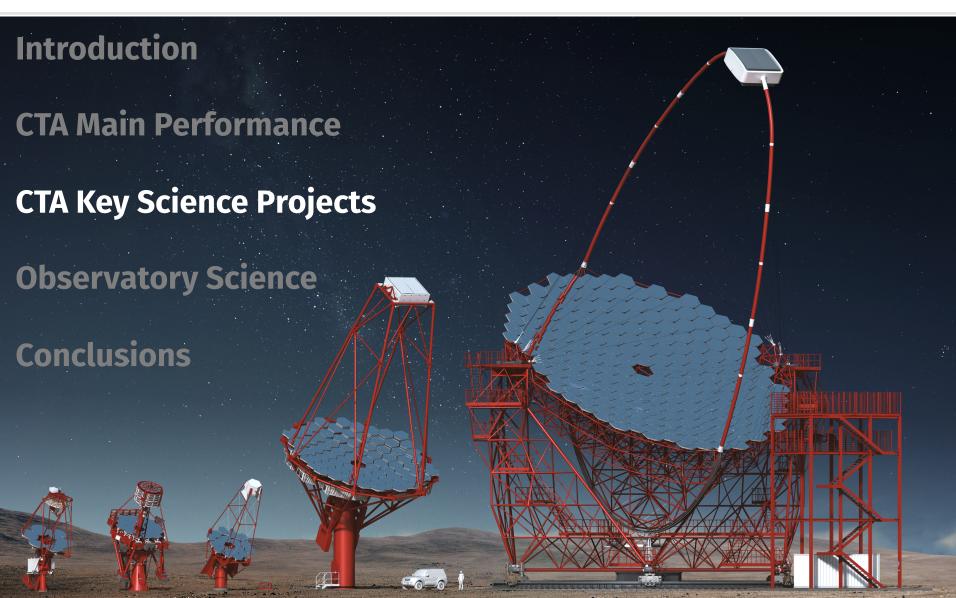


- Huge advantage over Fermi in energy range of overlap for ~minute to ~day timescale phenomena
  - Explosive transients
  - AGN flares
  - Binary systems
- Disadvantage over Fermi
  - Limited FoV (compared to Fermi)
  - Prompt reaction to external trigger is critical



#### **Outline**





## **Science Themes**

#### **Theme 1: Cosmic Particle Acceleration**

- How and where are particles accelerated?
- How do they propagate?
- What is their impact on the environment?

#### **Theme 2: Probing Extreme Environments**

- Processes close to neutron stars and black holes?
- Processes in relativistic jets, winds and explosions?
- Exploring cosmic voids

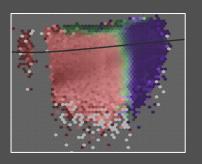
#### Theme 3: Physics Frontiers – beyond the SM

- What is the nature of Dark Matter? How is it distributed?
- Is the speed of light a constant for high energy photons?
- Do axion-like particles exist?

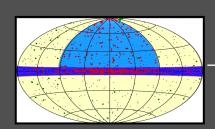
### **CTA Observing Programme**



- Core Programme (baseline CTA)
  - 9 Key Science Projects (KSPs) and 1 DM Programme
  - Focused on major legacy projects: surveys & population studies (providing legacy data-sets), large classes of sources, and a few iconic objects
  - Large potential for guest observer proposals building on results from the KSP surveys



**Dark Matter Programme** 

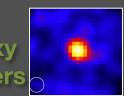


**ExGal** Survey

Time from GRB [sec]

Extragalactic Galaxy Clusters

**Transients** 

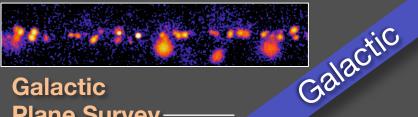




Star Forming Systems

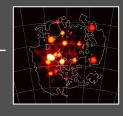
**AGN** 





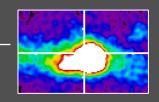
Galactic Plane Survey-

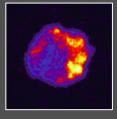
**LMC** Survey



**PeVatrons** 







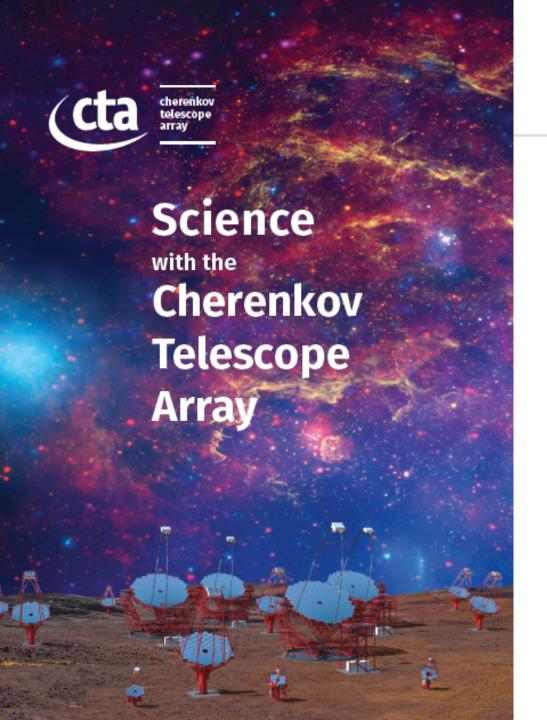


#### **Mapping Science** → **Observations**



Theme		Question		Dark Matter Programme	Galactic Centre Survey	Galactic Plane Survey	LMC Survey	Extra- galactic Survey	Transients	Cosmic Ray PeVatrons	Star-forming Systems	Active Galactic Nuclei	Galaxy Clusters
1	Understanding the Origin and Role of Relativistic Cosmic Particles	1.1	What are the sites of high-energy particle acceleration in the universe?		~	v	V	U	v	•	v	~	VV
		1.2	What are the mechanisms for cosmic particle acceleration?		•	•	•		V	V	•	~	•
		1.3	What role do accelerated particles play in feedback on star formation and galaxy evolution?		•		V				v	•	•
2	Probing Extreme Environments	2.1	What physical processes are at work close to neutron stars and black holes?		V	•	V			VV		V	
		2.2	What are the characteristics of relativistic jets, winds and explosions?		•	•	V	~	V	VV		VV	
		2.3	How intense are radiation fields and magnetic fields in cosmic voids, and how do these evolve over cosmic time?					v	•			V	
3	Exploring Frontiers in Physics	3.1	What is the nature of Dark Matter? How is it distributed?	v	VV		V						~
		3.2	Are there quantum gravitational effects on photon propagation?						v	v		V	
		3.3	Do Axion-like particles exist?					V	•			V	
									KSF	D <sub>C</sub>			

- KSPs are sets of observations addressing multiple science questions within CTA themes.
- Check-marks → impact of each KSP on a particular science question.
- The DM Programme has a transversal nature (GC, LMC, Galaxy Clusters).





### **Science with CTA**

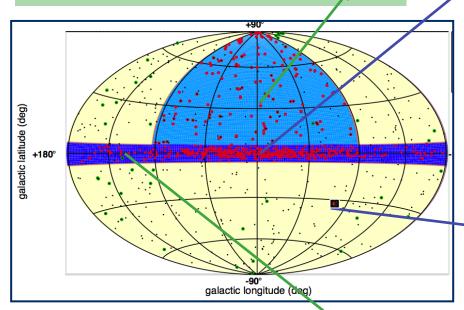
arXiv:1709.07997

To be published as a book & open-access online version by World Scientific.

# The Survey KSPs

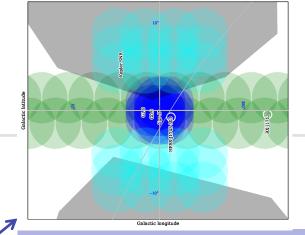
#### **Extragalactic Survey:**

Unbiased survey of ¼ sky to ~6 mCrab VHE population study, duty cycle New, unknown sources; 1000 h



### **Galactic Plane Survey:**

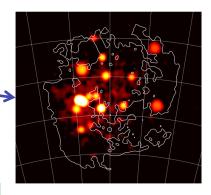
Survey of entire plane to ~2 mCrab Galactic source population: SNRs, PWNe, etc. PeVatron candidates, early view of GC, 1620 h





#### **Galactic Centre Survey:**

ID of the central source Spectrum, morphology of diffuse emission Deep DM search; base of the Fermi Bubbles Central exposure: 525 h, 10°x10°: 300 h

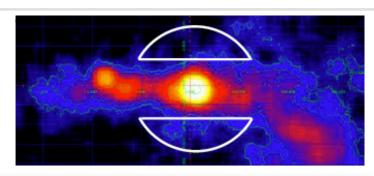


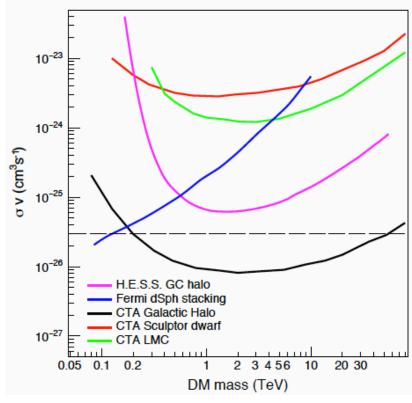
#### **Large Magellanic Cloud Survey:**

Face-on satellite galaxy with high SFR Extreme Gal. sources, diffuse emission (CRs) DM search; 340 h in six pointings

# **The Dark Matter Programme**







# Key target: Galactic Centre halo

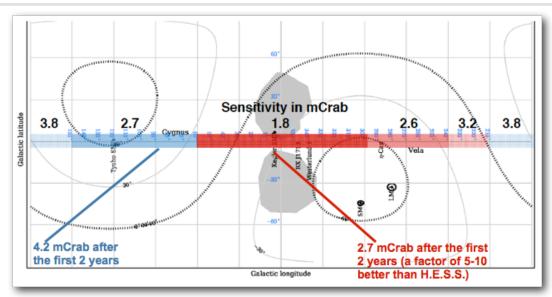
 Deep observation (525 h) to reach canonical thermal cross-section for wide WIMP mass range

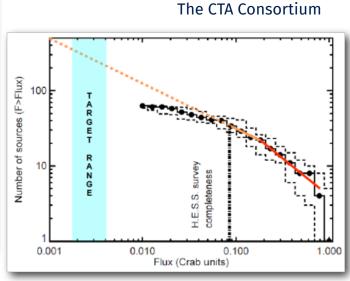
### Complementary observations

- Dwarf Sph. Galaxies (100 h)
- LMC (340 h)
- Perseus Gal. Cluster (300 h)
- Expect strategy to evolve with new information

# **Galactic Plane Survey**





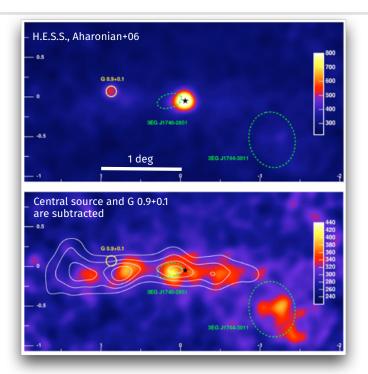


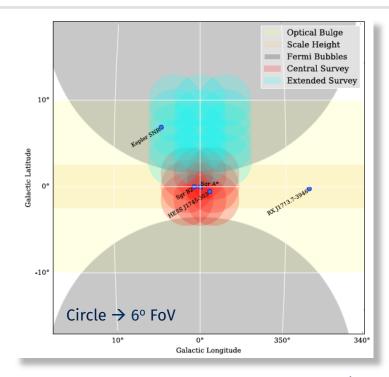
#### **Expected results**

- Discovery of new and unexpected phenomena in the Galaxy
- Discovery of PeVatron candidates → origin of cosmic rays
- Detection of many new VHE sources O(300 500), particularly PWNe and SNRs
- Measurement of the large-scale diffuse VHE gamma-ray emission
- Discovery of new VHE gamma-ray binaries
- Production of a multi-purpose legacy data set
- The GPS will produce and periodically release sky maps and catalogues

# **Galactic Centre Survey**







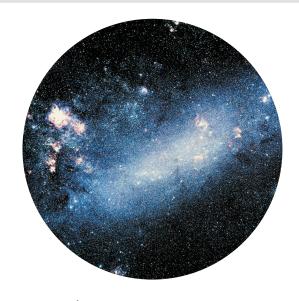
### **Expected results**

The CTA Consortium

- Determination of the nature of the central source
- A detailed view of the VHE diffuse emission
- Resolving new, previously undetectable sources
- Search for variability in the VHE source near Sgr A\*
- Studying the interaction of the central source with neighbouring clouds

### **LMC Survey**





Credits: Schaefer 2015

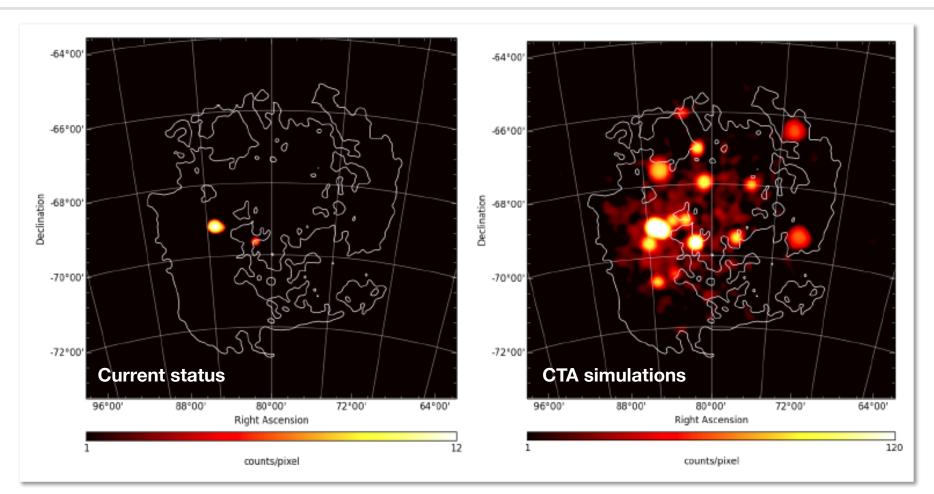
The Large Magellanic Cloud (LMC) is one of the nearest star-forming galaxies, at a distance of 50 kpc (± 2% → important for source energetics).

Its activity is attested by more than 60 supernova remnants, dozens to hundreds of HII regions, bubbles and shells observed at various wavelengths.

It is a unique place to obtain a resolved, global view of a star-forming galaxy at TeV energies.

## **LMC Survey**

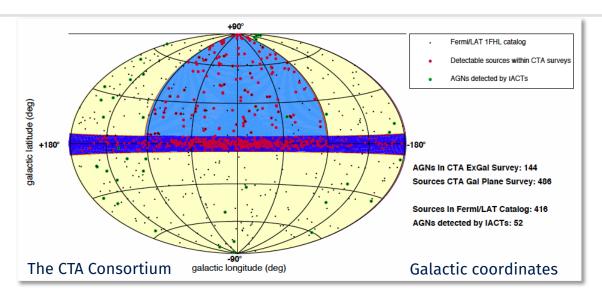


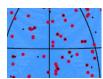


Simulation includes currently detected sources, plus ten point-like sources with  $L_{(E > 1 \text{ TeV})} \sim 10^{34}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup>, and a handful of regions enriched in cosmic rays.

# **Extra-galactic Survey**







1/4 of the sky (~10<sup>4</sup> deg<sup>2</sup>) Limiting flux ~ 5 mCrab

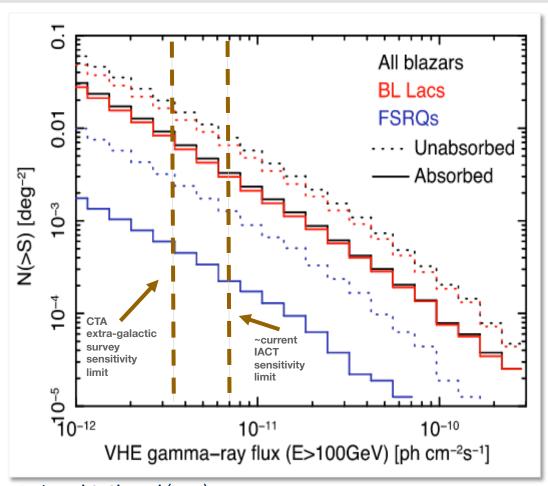
The survey would connect with the Galactic Plane Survey ( $|b| < 5^{\circ}$ ) over Galactic longitude  $-90^{\circ} < l < 90^{\circ}$ .

Several highly interesting regions such as the Virgo & Coma clusters, the Fermi Bubbles (North) and Cen A (South) will be covered by the proposed survey. The EGAL survey will be useful to investigate dark matter sub-halos.

Current simulations suggest that a wide-field, shallow survey should detect more sources than a narrow-field, deep survey (given an equal survey time).

# **Extra-galactic Survey**





Padovani & Giommi (2015) derived the expected number of blazars on the sky in the GeV–TeV domain.

With the 5 mCrab sensitivity during the proposed survey, CTA should detect around 100 sources in 10,000 deg<sup>2</sup>.

Padovani & Giommi (2015)

# **Multi-messenger Astrophysics** window is open!





Detection of a gravitational wave event following a GRBs onset and its MWL follow-up

GCN CIRCULAR

NUMBER: 21916

SUBJECT: IceCube-170922A - IceCube observation of a high-energy neutrino candidate event

17/09/23 01:09:26 GMT

FROM: Erik Blaufuss at U. Maryland/IceCube <blaufuss@icecube.umd.edu>

First-time detection of VHE gamma rays by MAGIC from a direction consistent with the recent EHE neutrino event IceCube-170922A

Credential

Subjects: Optical, Gam

Fermi-LAT detection of increased gamma-ray activity of TXS 0506+056, located inside the IceCube-170922A error region.

ATel #10791; Yasuyuki T. Tanaka (Hiroshima University), Sara Buson (NASA/GSFC), Daniel Kocevski (NASA/MSFC) on behalf of the Fermi-LAT collaboration on 28 Sep 2017; 10:10 UT

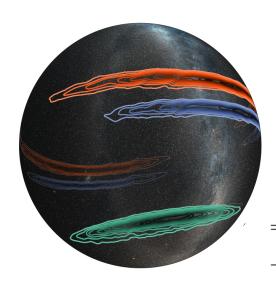
Credential Certification: David J. Thompson (David J. Thompson@nasa.gov)

Subjects: Gamma Ray, Neutrinos, AGN

Possible association of an extragalactic source with an IceCube neutrino event.

### **Transients**





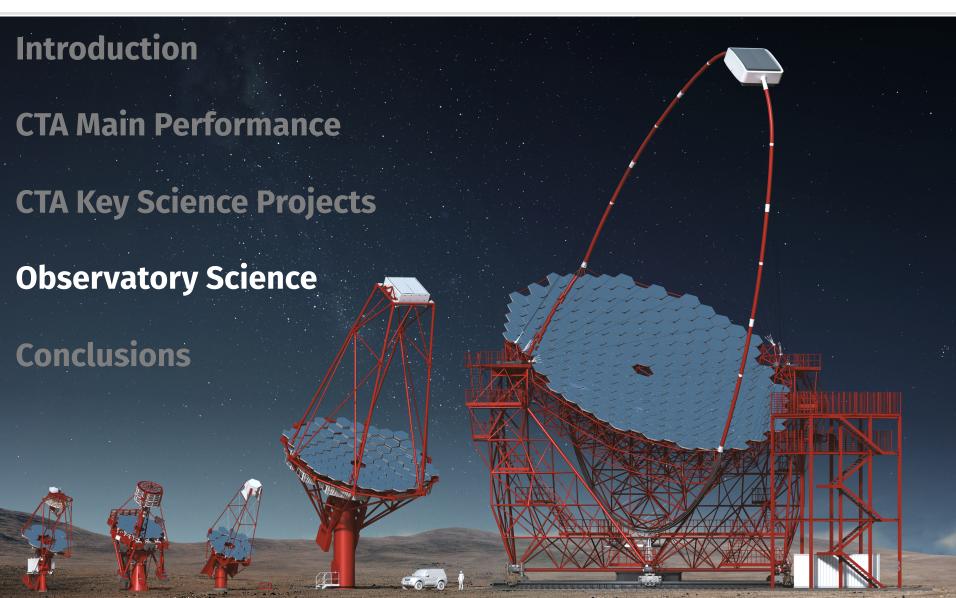
Credits: The LIGO Scientific Collaboration

**Transients** are a diverse population of astrophysical objects. Some are known to be prominent **emitters of high-energy gamma-rays**, while others are sources of non-photonic, multimessenger signals such as cosmic rays, **neutrinos** and/or gravitational waves (GW → MOU already signed).

Observation times (1 yr - site -)									
Priority	Target class	Early phase		Years	1-2 Year	rs3–10 Y∉	–10 Years 1–10		
1	GW transients		20		5	5			
2	HE neutrino transients		20		5	5			
3	Serendipitous VHE transients		100		25	25			
4	GRBs		50		50	50			
5	X-ray/optical/radio transients		50		10	10			
6	Galactic transients		150		30	30 0(?)			
_						-(-)			
Follow-up	Target class	Detected	Trigge	Late	Urgency	Activity	Obs. time (h)	Total	Site
priority		@ HE		$(yr^{-1})$		duration	/night	time (h)	
1	Magnetar giant flares	_	MeV	0.1	1 min	1–2 d	Max. 1	10	A/B
2	PWN flares: Crab nebula	Υ	HE	1	1 d	5-20 d (HE)	4	50	S&N
3	HMXB microquasars: Cyg X-3	Υ	HE/X-ray	0.5	1 d	50-70 d (HE)	Max. 1	50	N
	Cyg X-1	Υ	HE/X-ray	0.2	1 d	1-10 d?	Max. 1	30	N
4	Unidentified HE transients	Υ	HE	1	1 d	?	2	20	A/B
5	LMXB microquasars	?	X-ray/radio	1	1 d	Weeks	2	20	A/B
6	Novae	Υ	HE/opt.	2	1 d	Weeks	2	20	A/B
7	Transitional pulsars	Υ	Radio/opt.	0.5	1 d	Weeks	2	20	A/B
8	Be/X-ray binary pulsars	N	X-ray	1	1 d	Weeks	2	20	A/B
								47	

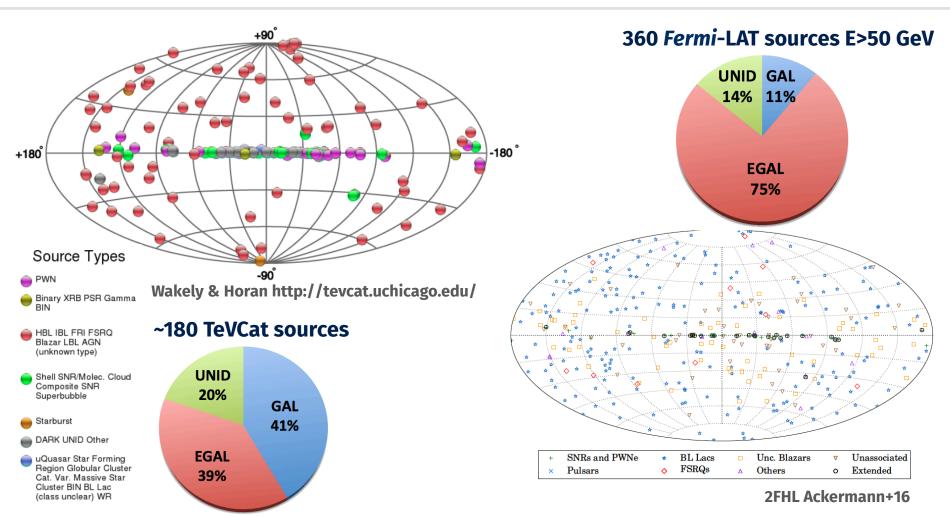
### **Outline**





# The sky above 50 GeV

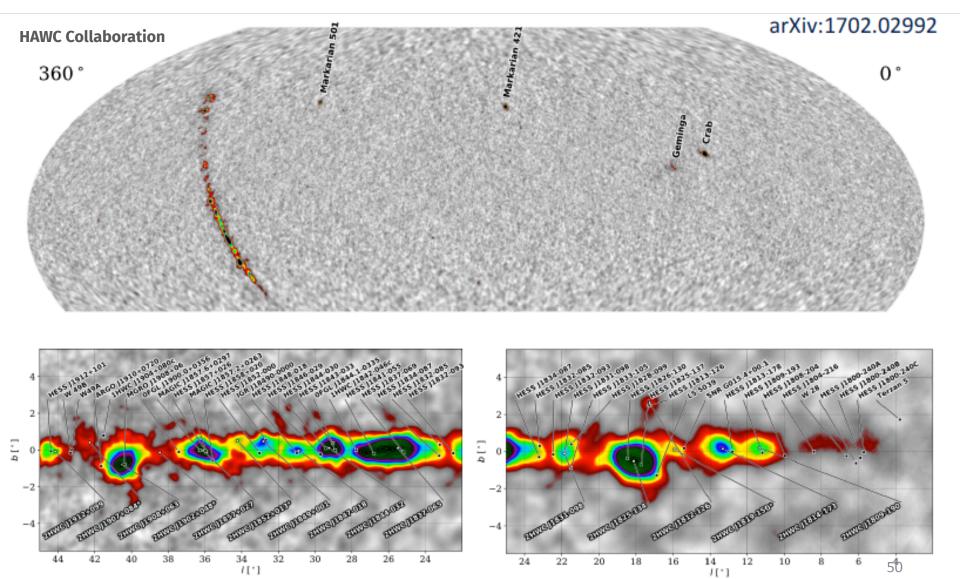




Only ~25% of the 2FHL sources have been previously detected by Cherenkov telescopes. **2FHL provides a reservoir of candidates to be followed up at very high energies.** 49

# 0.1 – 100 TeV sky



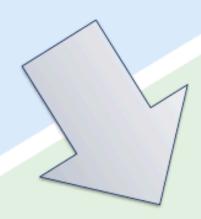


# KSPs vs. proposal-driven programs

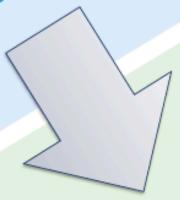


### **Key Science Projects**

- Ensure that important science questions for CTA are addressed in a coherent fashion and with a well-defined strategy,
- Conceived to provide legacy data sets for the entire community



Example: galactic and extragalactic surveys

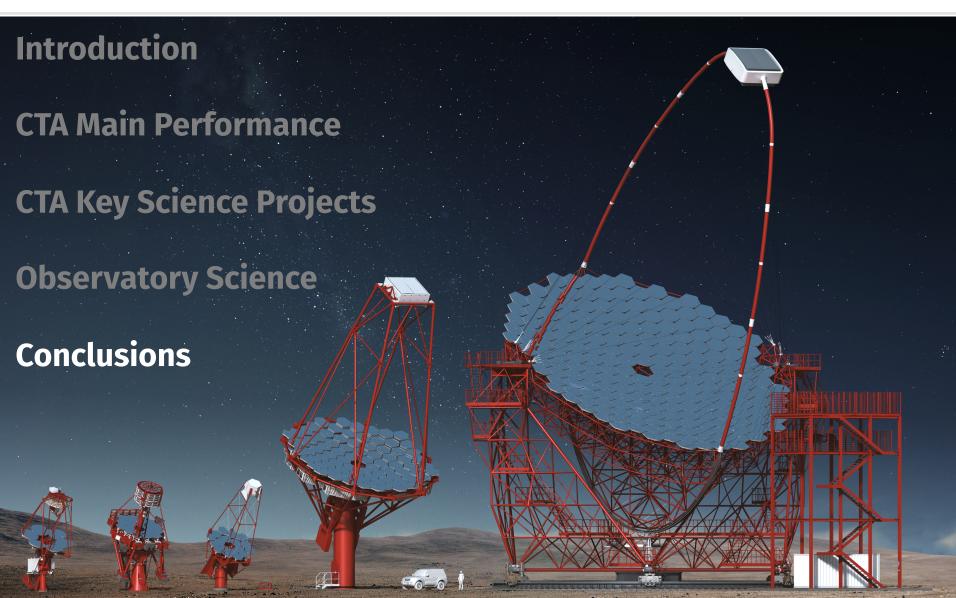


- Deep investigation of known sources
- Follow-up of KSP discovered sources
- Multiwavelength campaigns
- Follow-up of ToOs from other wavebands / messengers
- Search for new sources
- ...

**Proposal-Driven User Programme** 

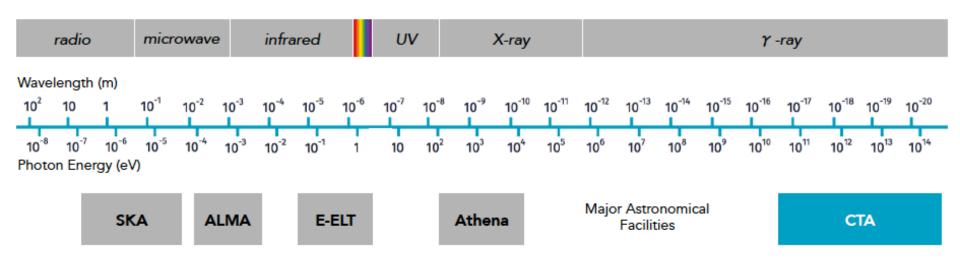
### **Outline**





# **Synergies during CTA operation**



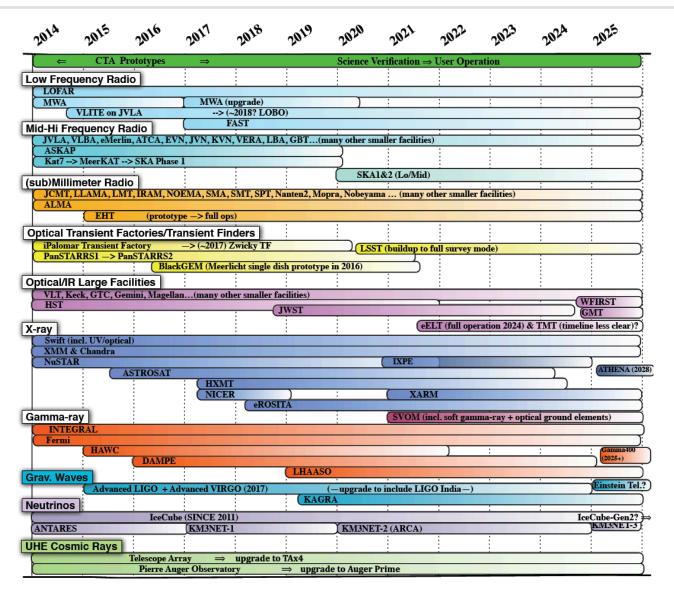


These are just a few of the MWL facilities available during the CTA era.

Next slide shows...

# **Synergies during CTA operation**

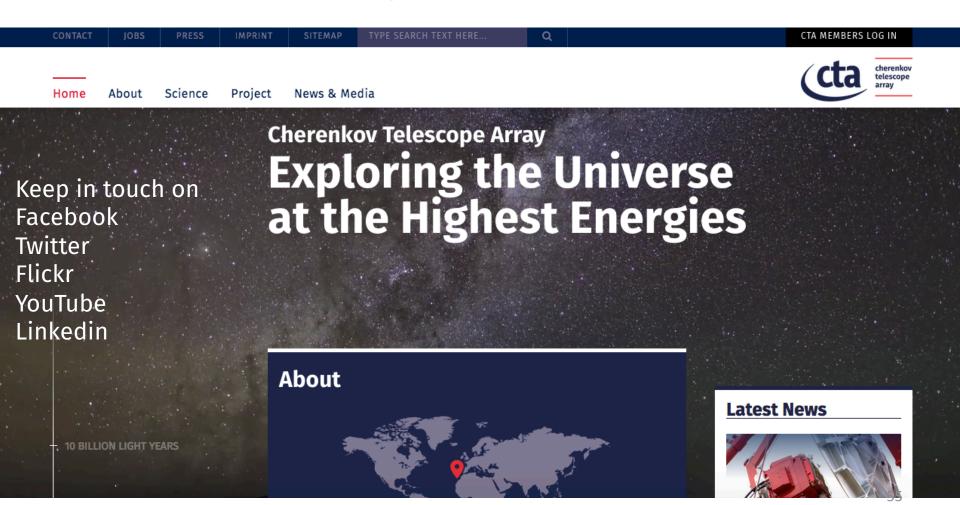




# **CTA Main webpage**



https://www.cta-observatory.org/



### References



- Tera-electronVolt Astronomy
  - Hinton and Hofmann, Annual Review of Astronomy and Astrophysics, 47,
     523 (2009)
- Seeing the High-Energy Universe with the Cherenkov Telescope Array - The Science Explored with the CTA
  - Edited by Hinton, Sarkar, Torres and Knapp, Astroparticle Physics Volume 43, Pages 1-356 (March 2013)
- CTA Contributions to the 2017 ICRC Conference
  - [https://arxiv.org/html/1709.03483]
- Science with the Cherenkov Telescope Array
  - Edited by Hinton, Ong and Torres, arXiv:1709.07997

# **Summary**



CTA will be an **Observatory** open to the scientific community.

**Science** will focus on cosmic particle acceleration, extreme environments, and physics beyond the standard model.

Proprietary time (significant fraction in the first years) will be articulated in **Key Science Projects.** 

Large potential for **Guest Observer proposals** – e.g., building on results from the KSP surveys.

CTA will have important **synergies** with many of the new generation of astronomical and astro-particle observatories.

# Thanks!