







# Imaging Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes: Present and Future.

**Jamie Holder**

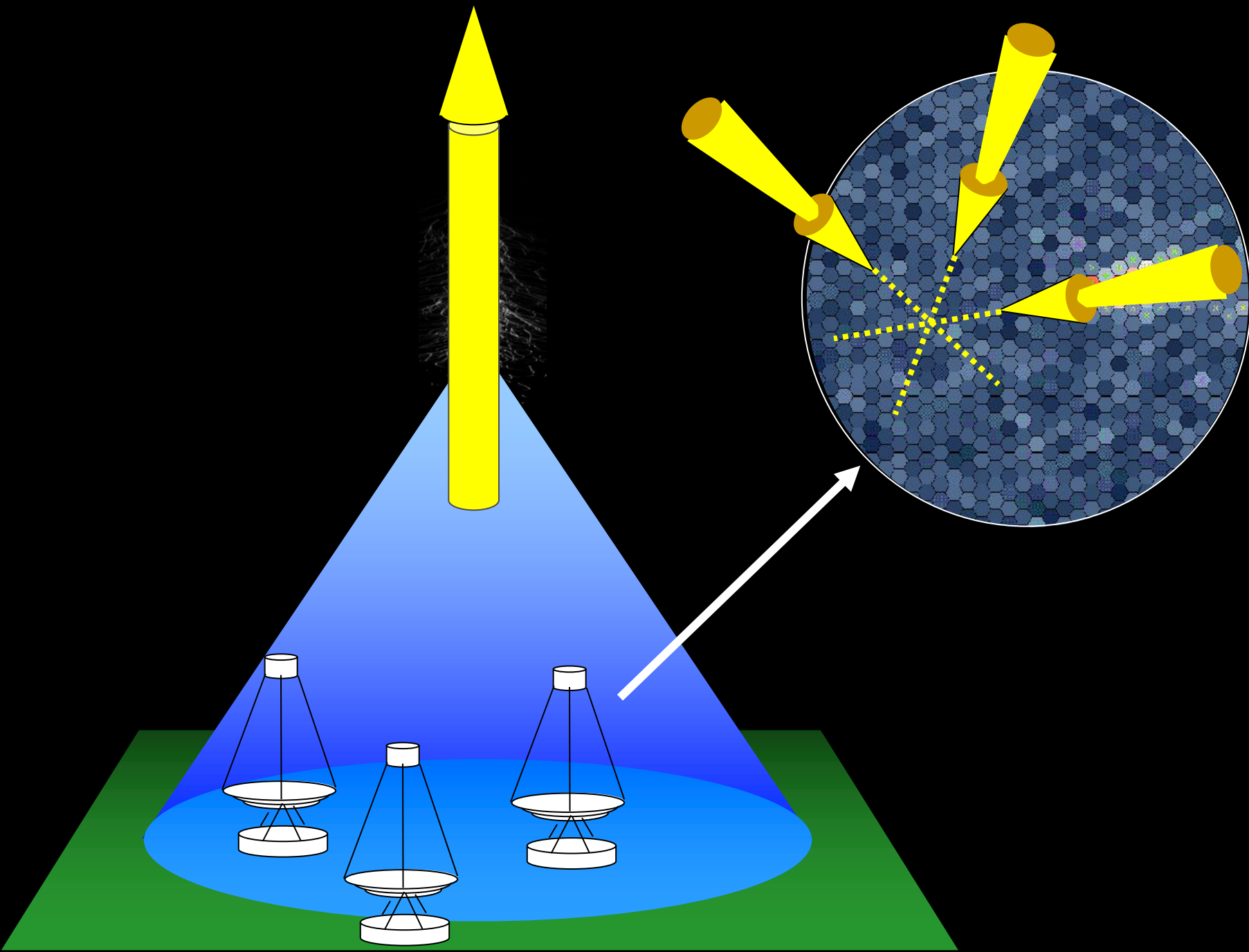
**Bartol Research Institute/Department of Physics and Astronomy  
University of Delaware**

IceCube Particle Astrophysics Symposium  
Madison  
May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## The Charge:

“Your talk should be presented as a compact presentation of **recent results** and **major open questions** persisting in the field, with an emphasis on **what can be done** in the coming decade - experimentally, theoretically or both - to resolve these questions.”

What **tools** will we use to resolve the questions?





**VERITAS**



**The Present**



**MAGIC II**



**H.E.S.S.**

**H.E.S.S. II**



# The Future: The Cherenkov Telescope Array

## Low energies

Energy threshold 20-30 GeV

23 m diameter

4 telescopes (South)

4 telescopes (North)



## Medium energies

100 GeV – 10 TeV

9.5 to 12 m diameter

25 medium-size telescopes (S)

15 medium-size telescopes (N)

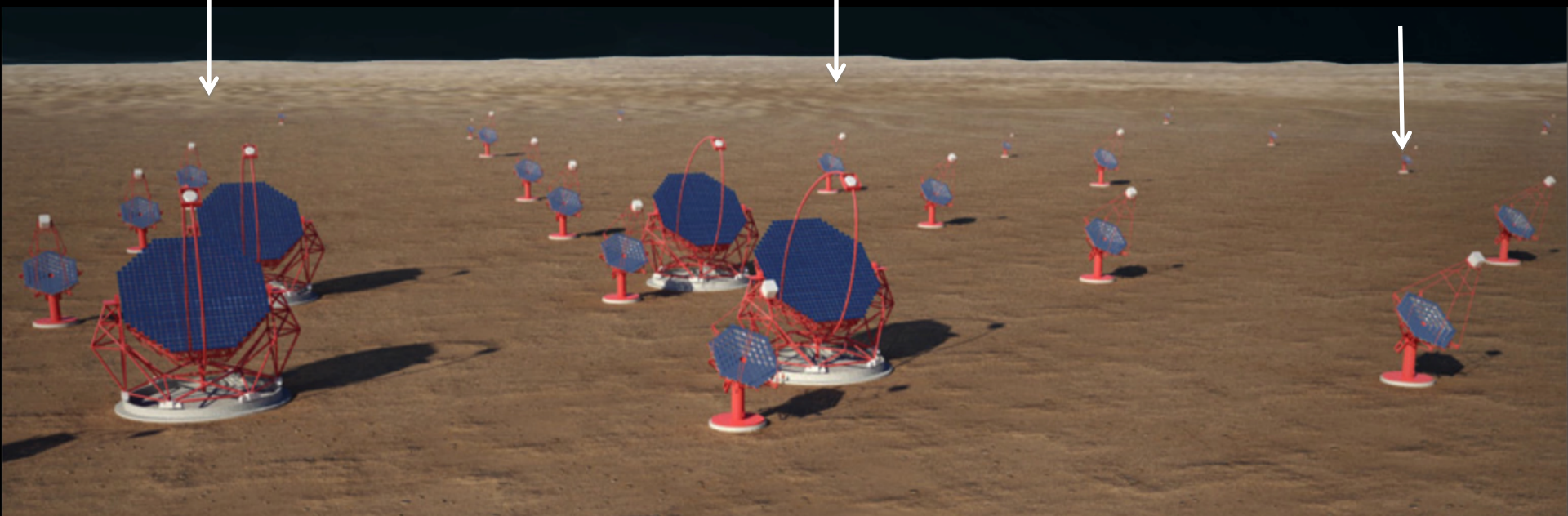


## High energies

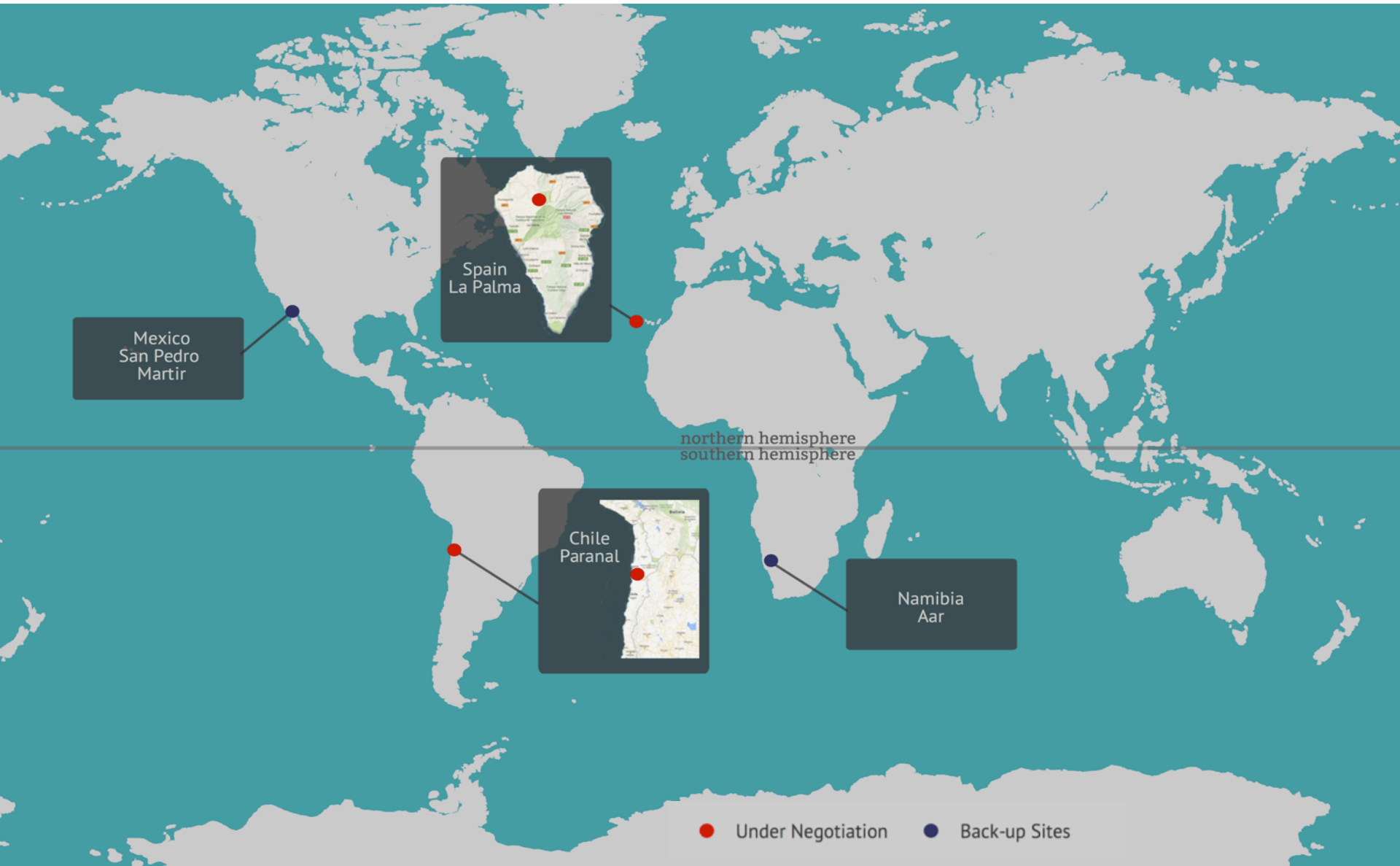
10 km<sup>2</sup> effective area

4m diameter

70 small-size telescopes (S)

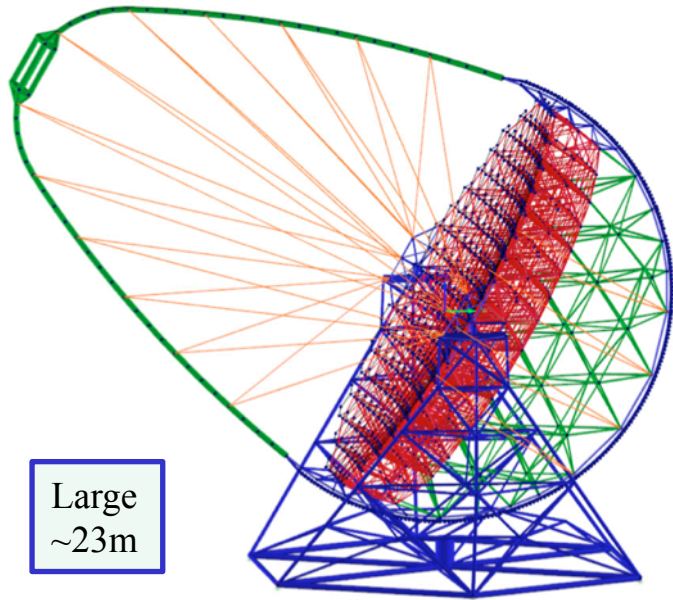


# SITES

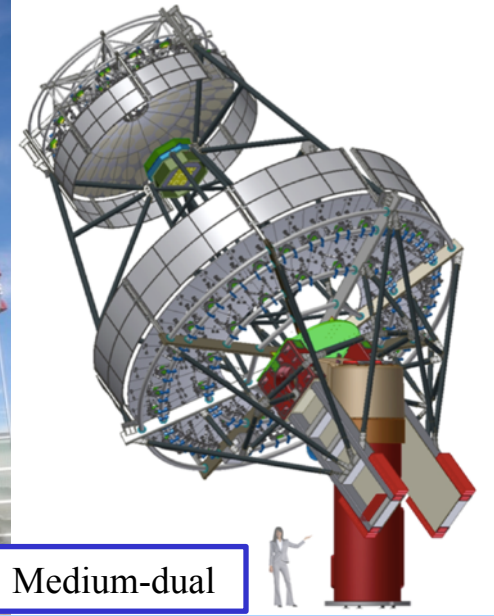




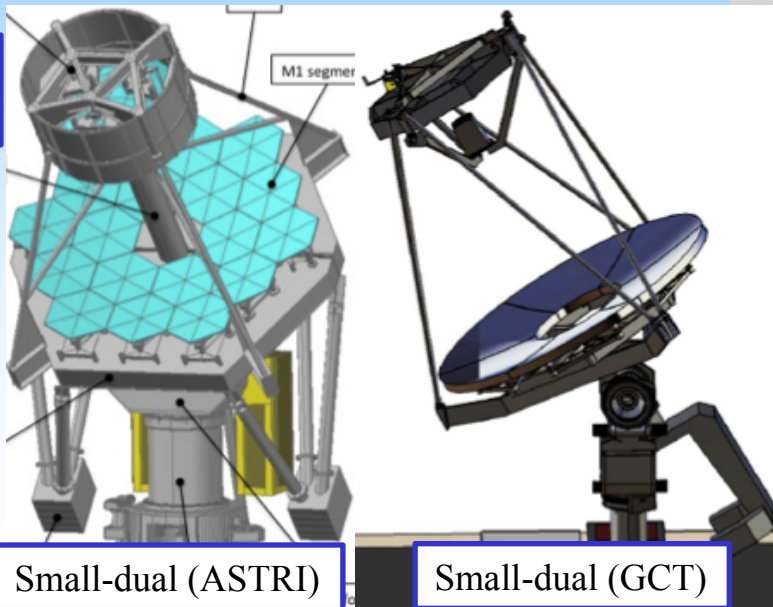
# CTA Telescopes under development



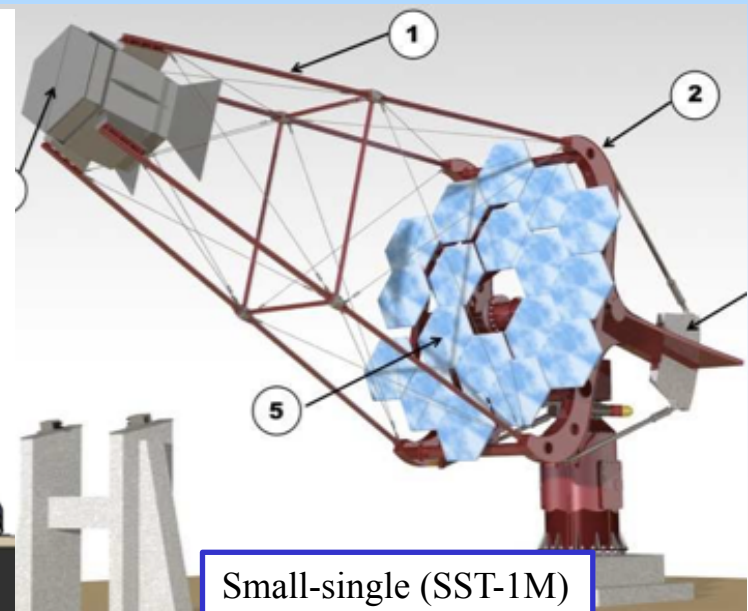
Medium  
~12m



Small  
~4m



Small-dual (GCT)







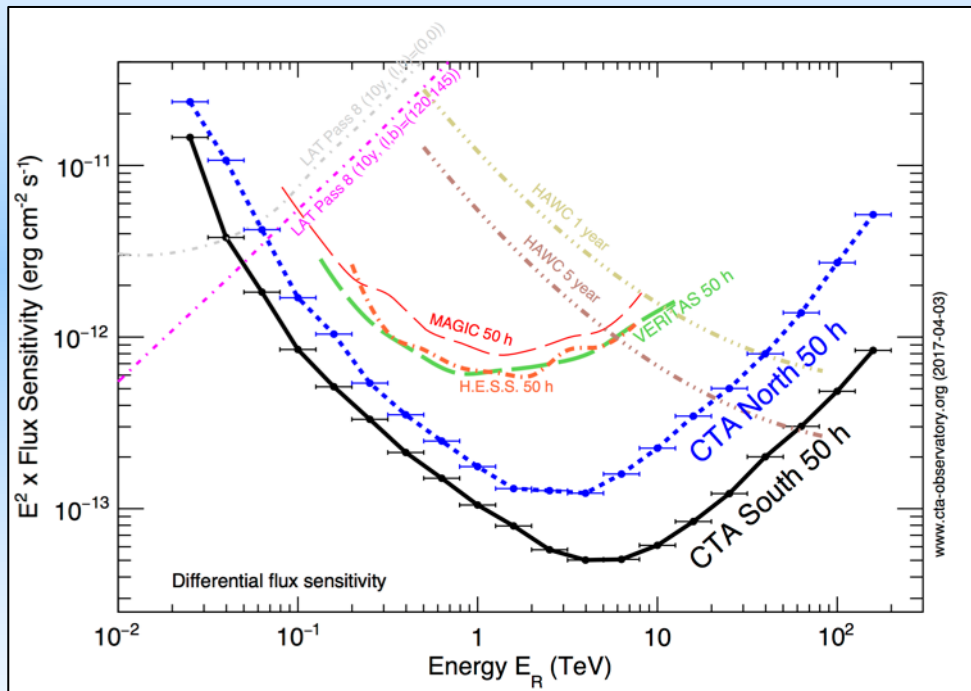




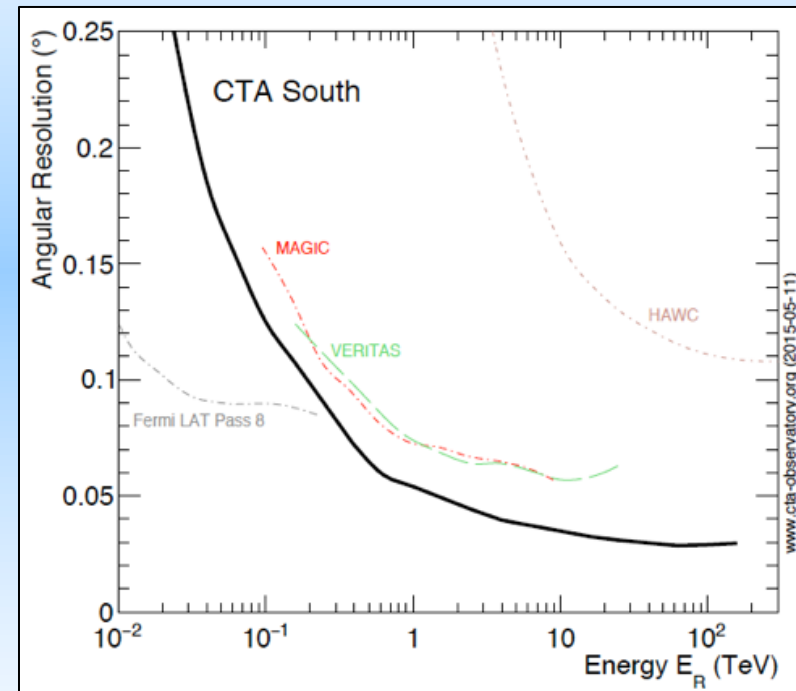


# Present vs Future

- Sensitivity improvement of an order of magnitude.
- Energy range extended both higher and lower.



- Improved angular (and energy) resolution.



## The Charge:

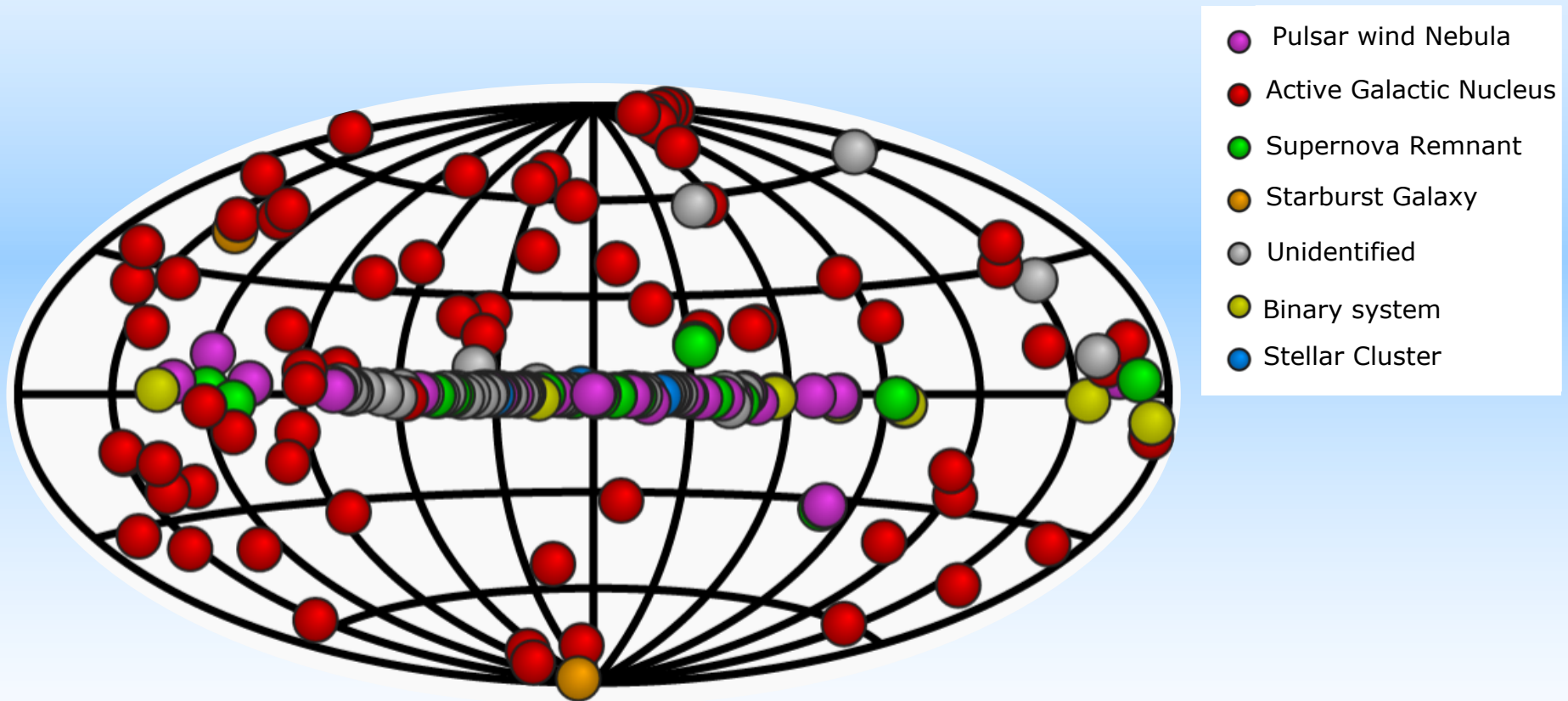
“Your talk should be presented as a compact presentation of **recent results** and **major open questions** persisting in the field, with an emphasis on **what can be done** in the coming decade - experimentally, theoretically or both - to resolve these questions.”

What are the questions?

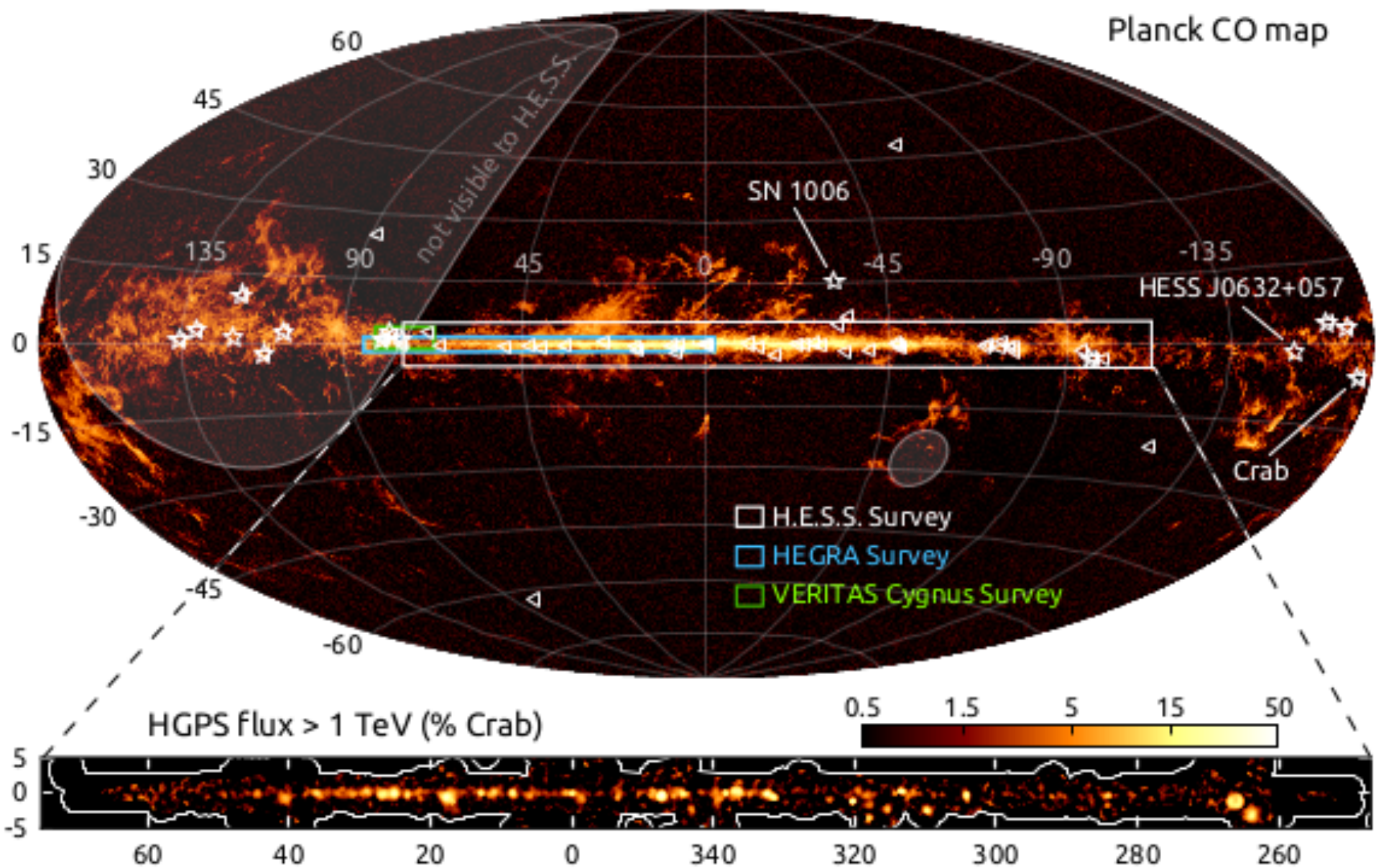
Let's start with just a few of the original ones...

# I. What is the population of TeV gamma-ray sources?

- Nearly 200 sources from many different source classes and sub-categories.

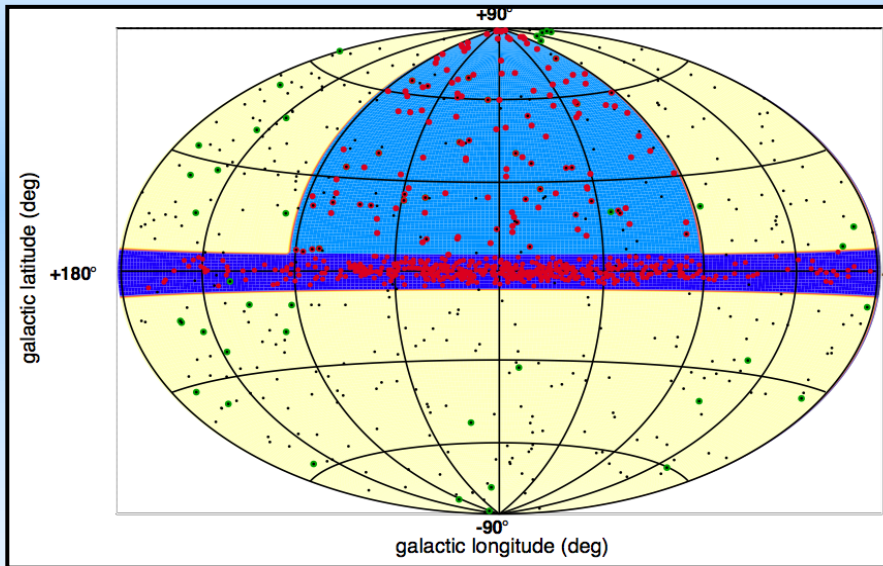






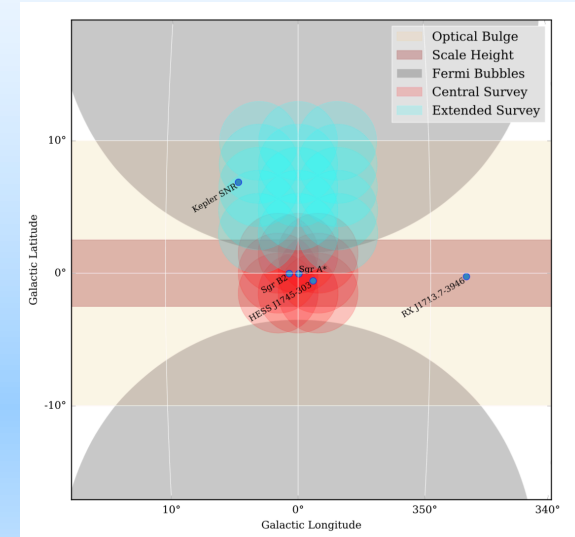
# The Future: Surveys with CTA

- Extragalactic Survey
  - Quarter of the sky to  $\sim 6\text{mCrab}$
  - 1000 hr in total

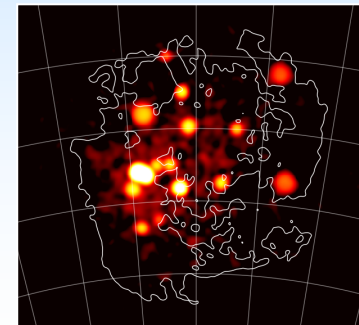


- Galactic Plane Survey
  - Entire plane to  $\sim 2\text{ mCrab}$
  - 1620 hr in total

- Galactic Center Survey
  - Central region: 525 hr
  - Extended region (to  $+10^\circ$ ): 300 hr

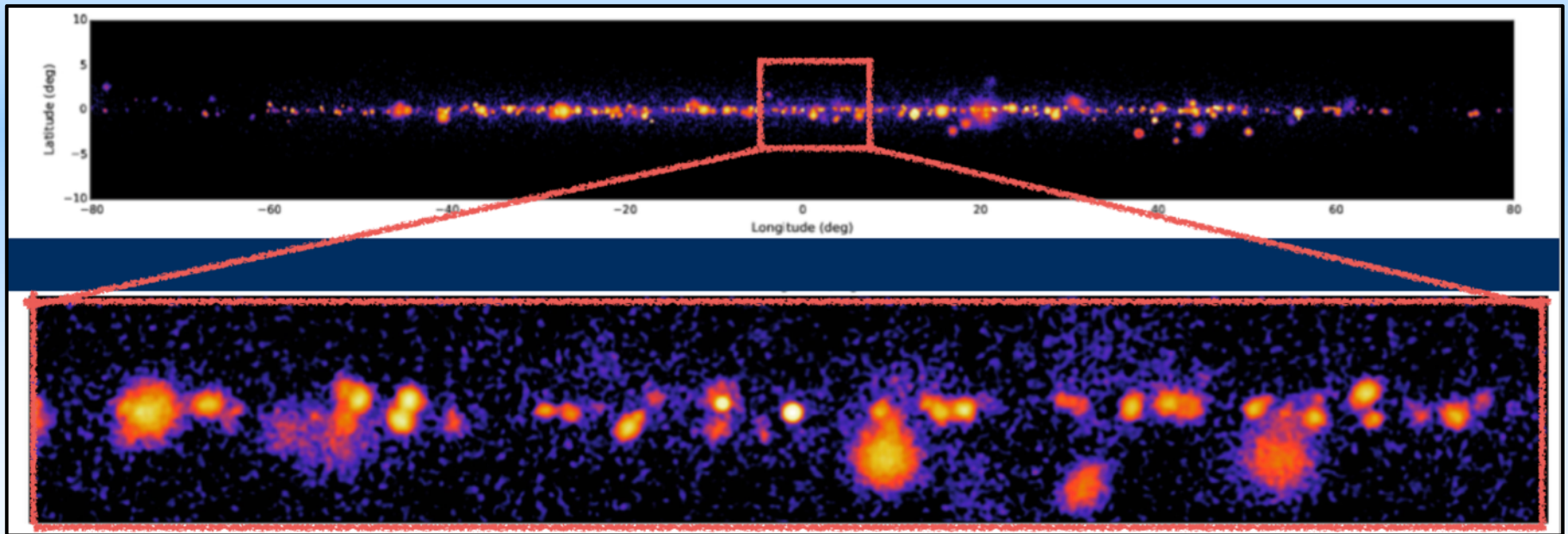


- Large Magellanic Cloud Survey
  - 340 hr



# Galactic Plane Survey with CTA

- Will detect many hundreds of sources.
- Provides population studies of pulsar wind nebulae, supernova remnants.
- Allows searches for new gamma-ray binaries and pulsars.
- Allows searches for PeVatrons, new source classes and transients.

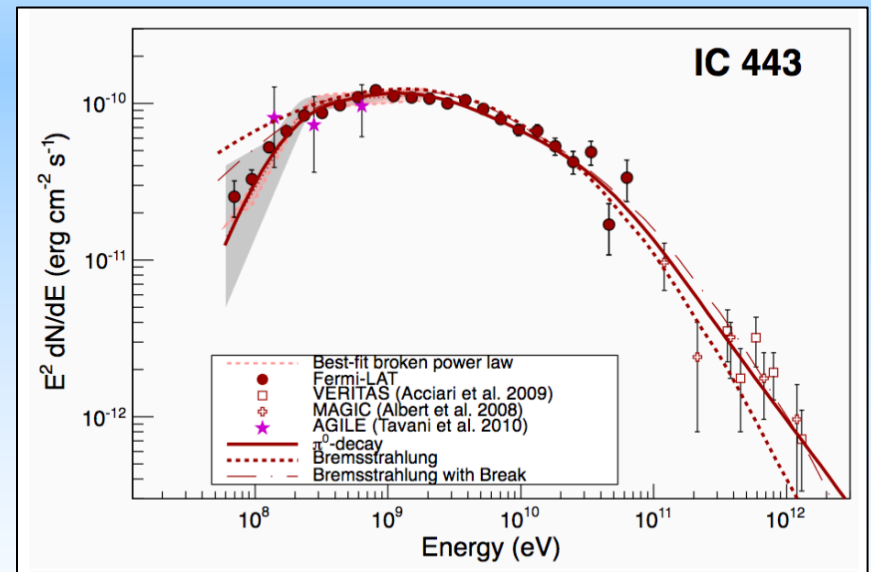
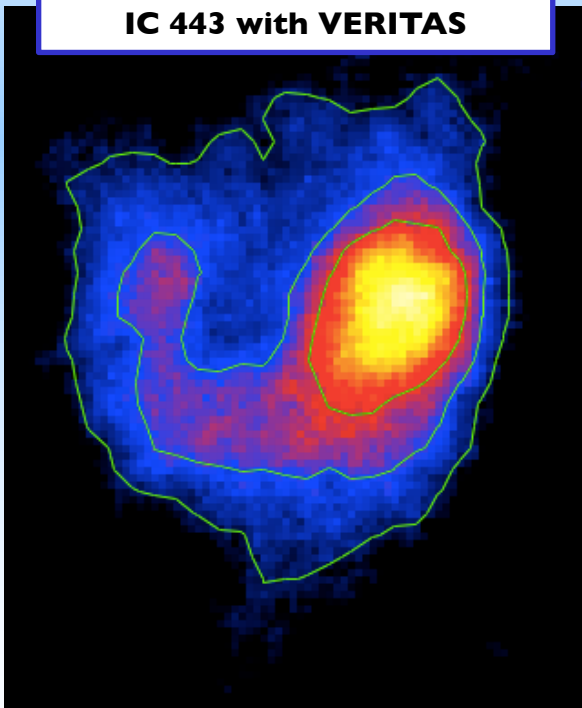




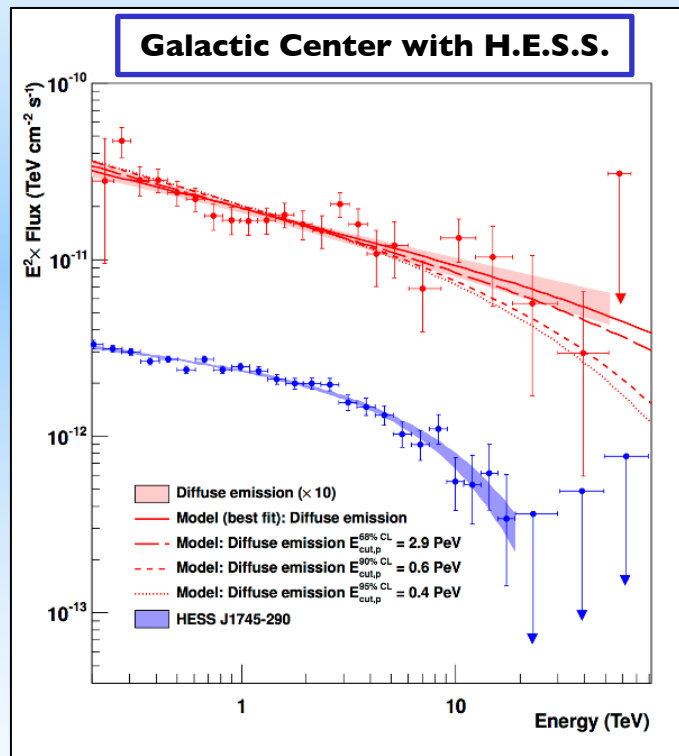
## 2. What is the origin of the cosmic rays?

- Particle acceleration takes place in supernova remnants.
- Gamma-ray emission identifies the acceleration sites.
- Particle population is ambiguous: leptonic or hadronic emission may dominate.
- Where hadronic emission is identified, the source spectra cut off at high energies.

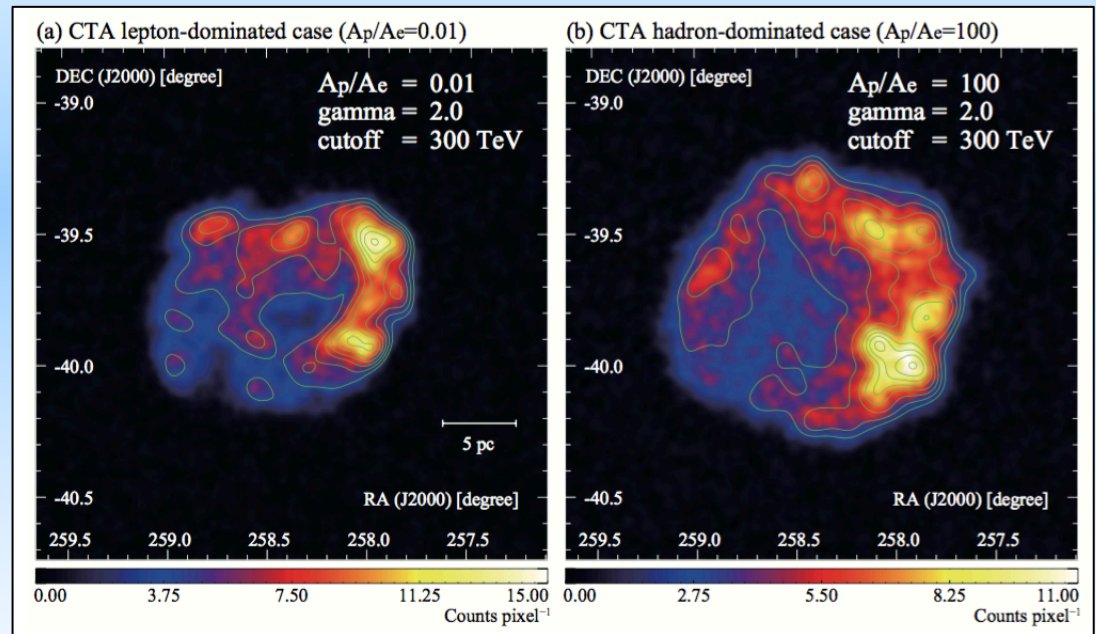
IC 443 with VERITAS



- To produce the Galactic population of cosmic rays up to the knee requires PeVatrons.
- There may be one at the Galactic Center (or there may *have* been).
- CTA will search for others, by extending the energy range to hundreds of TeV.
- Improved angular resolution will also help to discriminate between models.

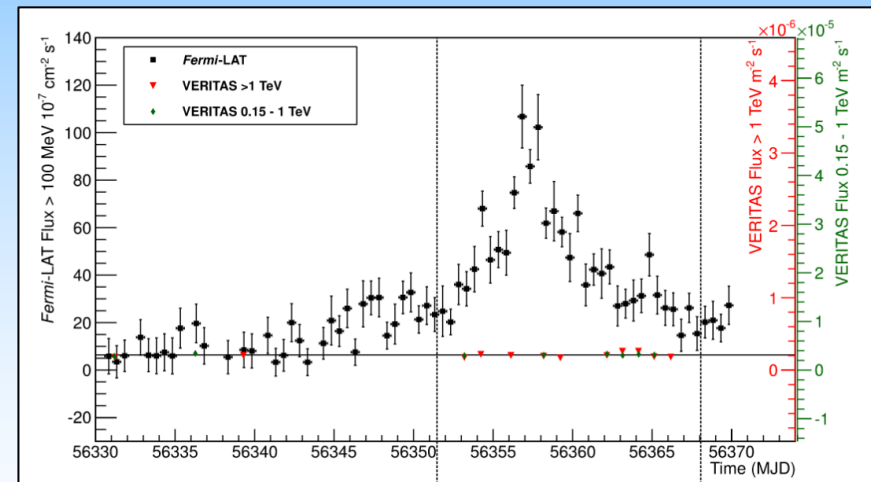
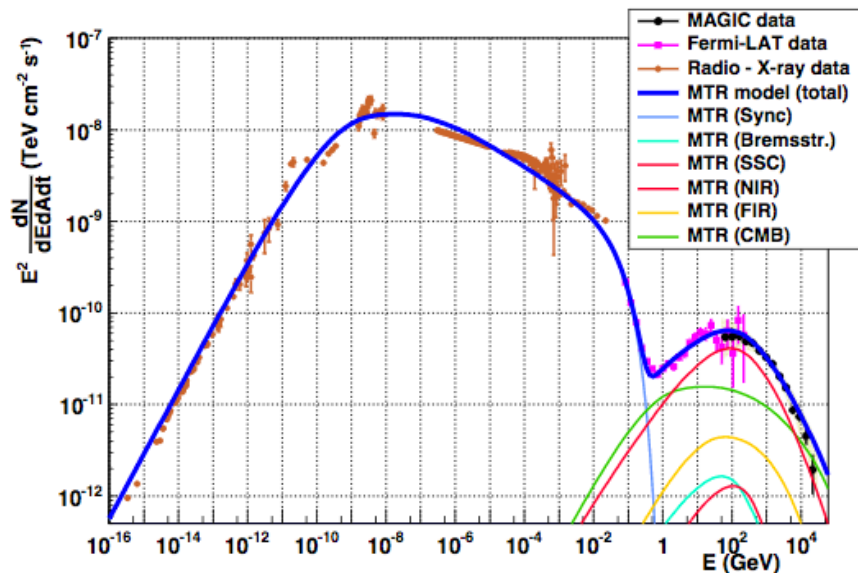


**RX J 1713 .7-3946 with CTA**



### 3. What is the nature of gamma-ray emission from the Crab?

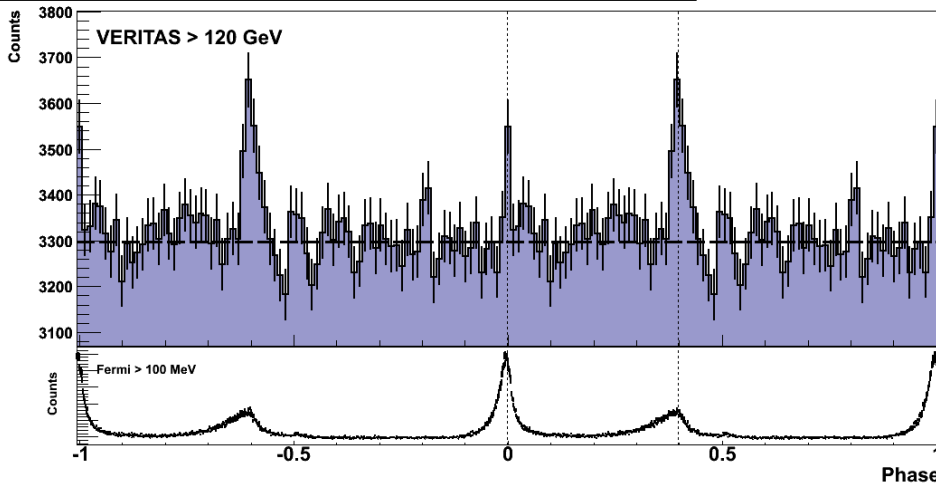
- The Crab Nebula was the first astrophysical TeV gamma-ray source proposed (by Cocconi, 1959), and the first to be firmly detected (by Whipple, in 1989) – although at 1/10,000 of the predicted flux!
- Emission is SSC of leptons accelerated near the termination shock of the pulsar wind.
- The Fermi-LAT measured Crab flares have no counterpart at TeV.



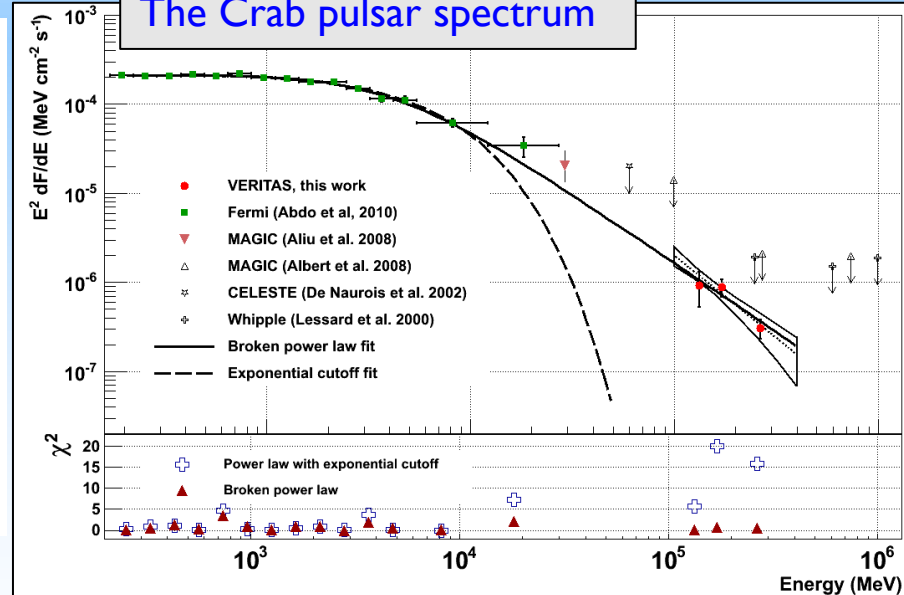
# The Crab Pulsar

- Fermi-LAT measures a spectral break at 6 GeV
- VERITAS measures unpredicted emission above 100 GeV
- Implies emission region  $> 10$  stellar radii.
- Absence of exponential cutoff makes curvature radiation unlikely as the dominant mechanism at these energies.
- Latest MAGIC results extend to 1 TeV.
- CTA will measure at least 12 Fermi pulsars, and tell us if the Crab is the only TeV pulsar.

The Crab pulsar lightcurve  $> 120$  GeV



The Crab pulsar spectrum

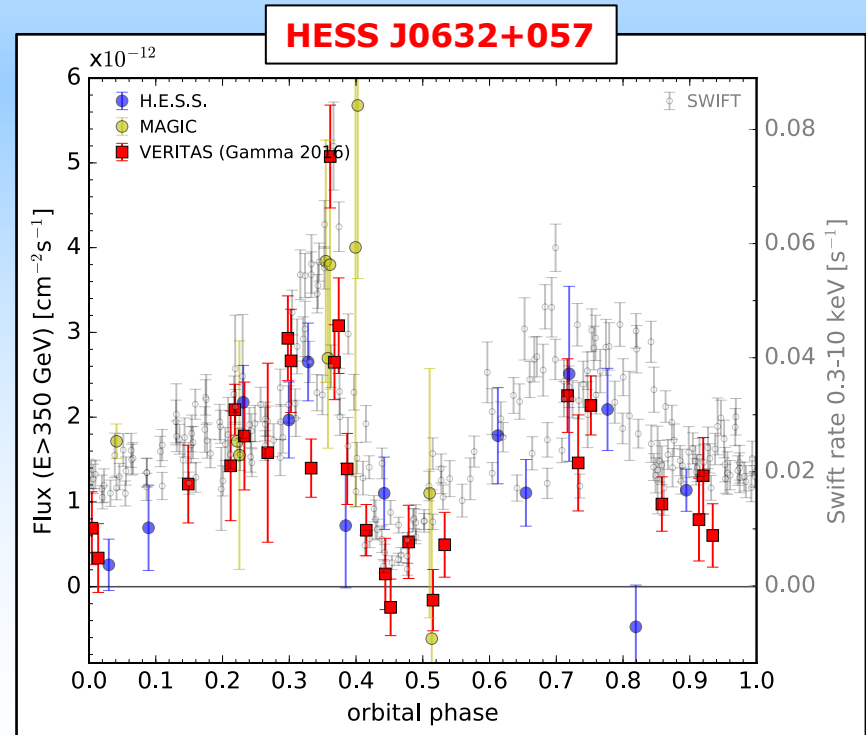
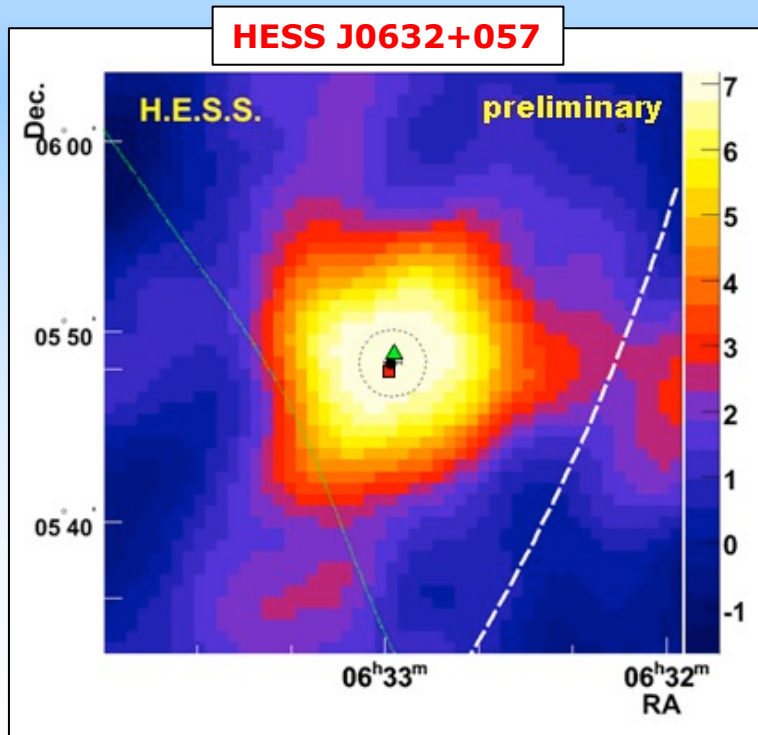




## 4. Is Cyg X-3 a TeV gamma-ray source?

Are binary systems in general TeV sources?

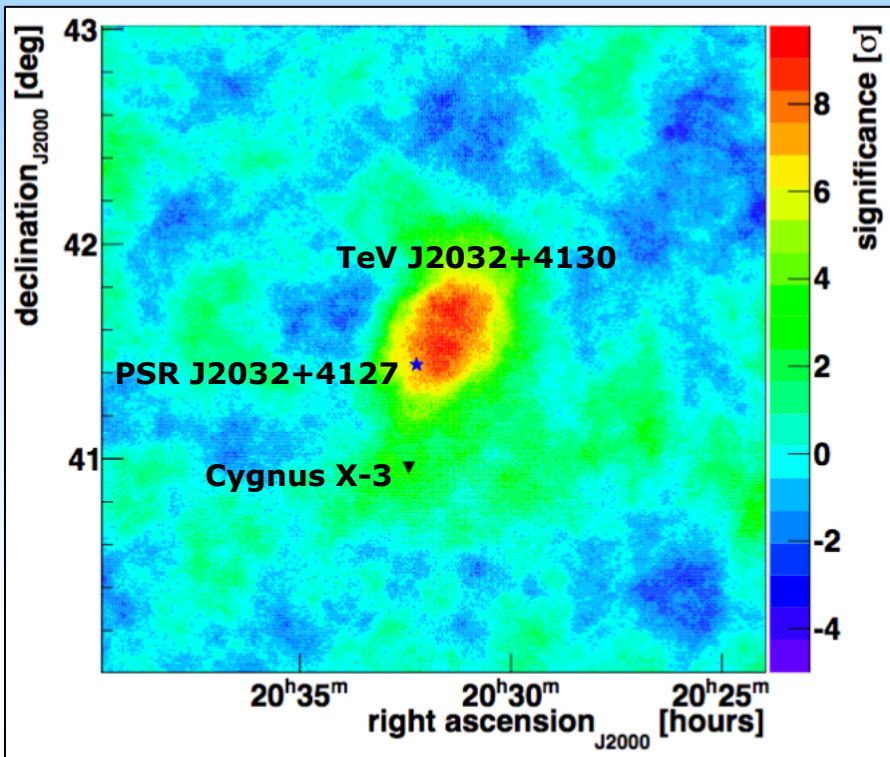
- Cygnus X-3 motivated the birth of the field in the 70's and 80's.
- The early results were likely spurious. Cyg X-3 is a Fermi-LAT source, but the emission does not extend in to the  $>100$  GeV range.
- A small population of TeV binaries have been detected.
- CTA will add to this – but probably not more than a handful.



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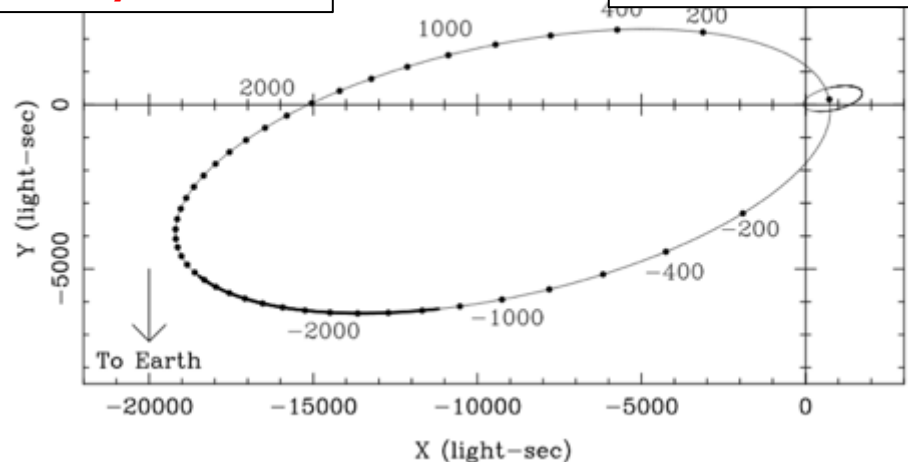
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- Another one coming soon ?

**PSR J2032+4127**  
**40-45 year orbit!**

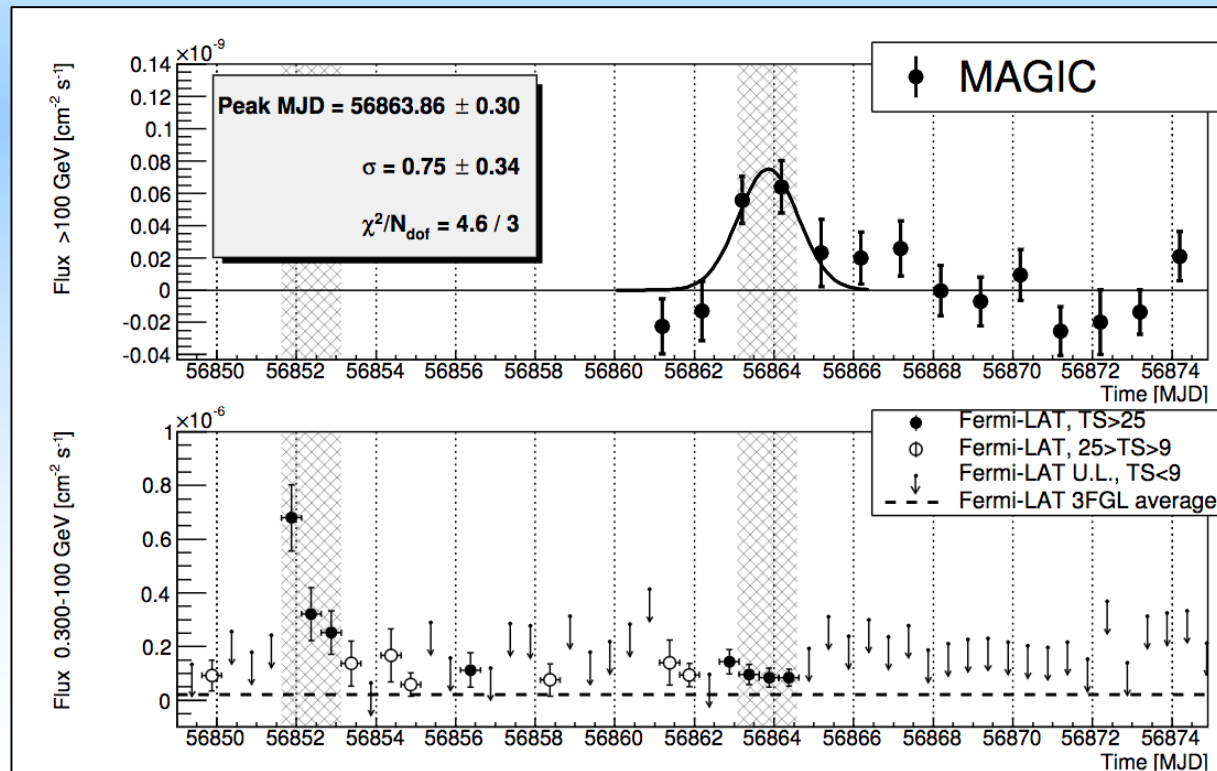
**Periastron**  
**November 2017**



## 5. How far can we see?

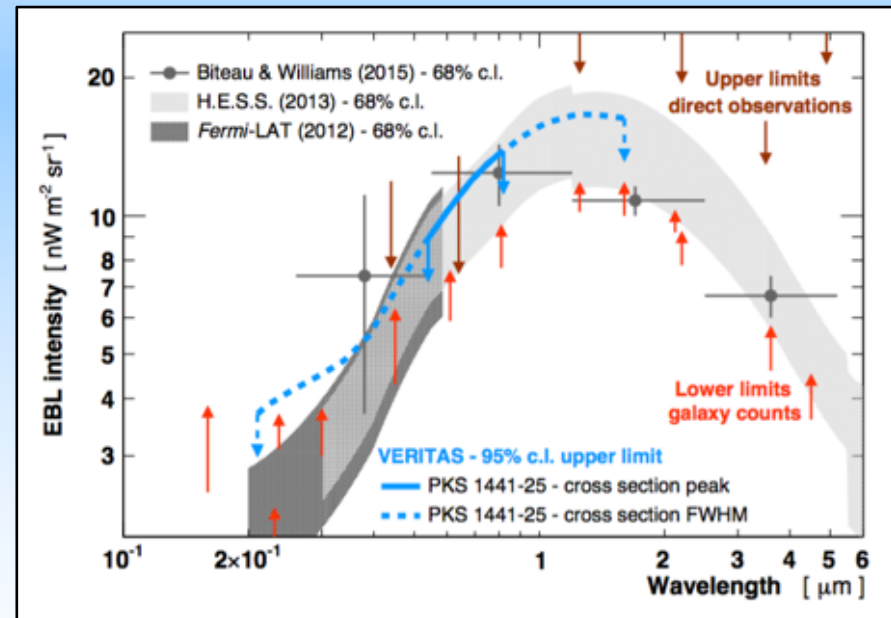
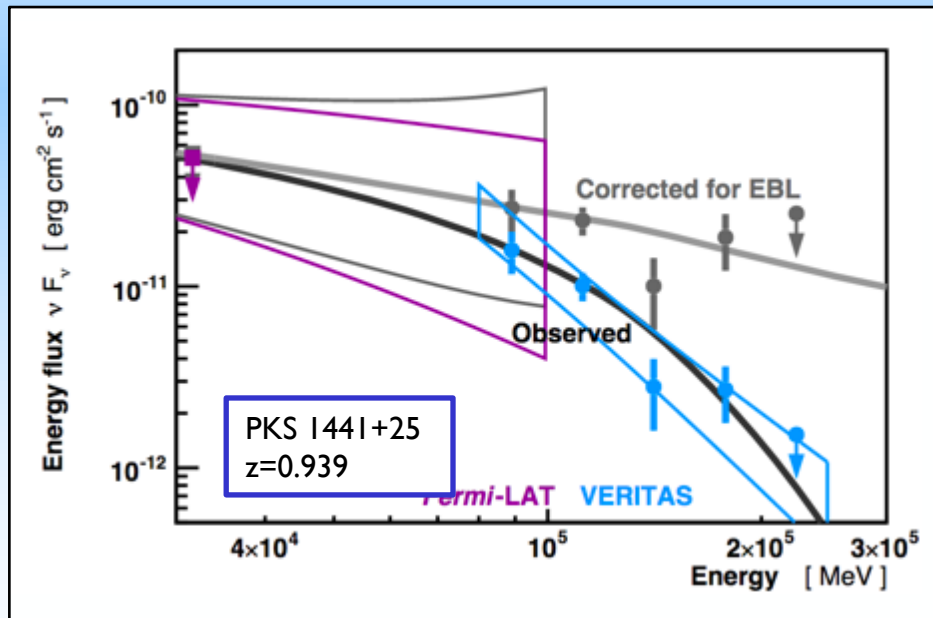
- Above 10 GeV, gamma-ray photons are absorbed by pair production with photons of the extragalactic background light.
- This limits the gamma-ray observable Universe.
- But allows to measure or constrain the EBL.
- Active Galactic Nuclei with redshifts of  $\sim 1$  have been detected by the current generation.

QSO B0218+357  
 $z=0.944$



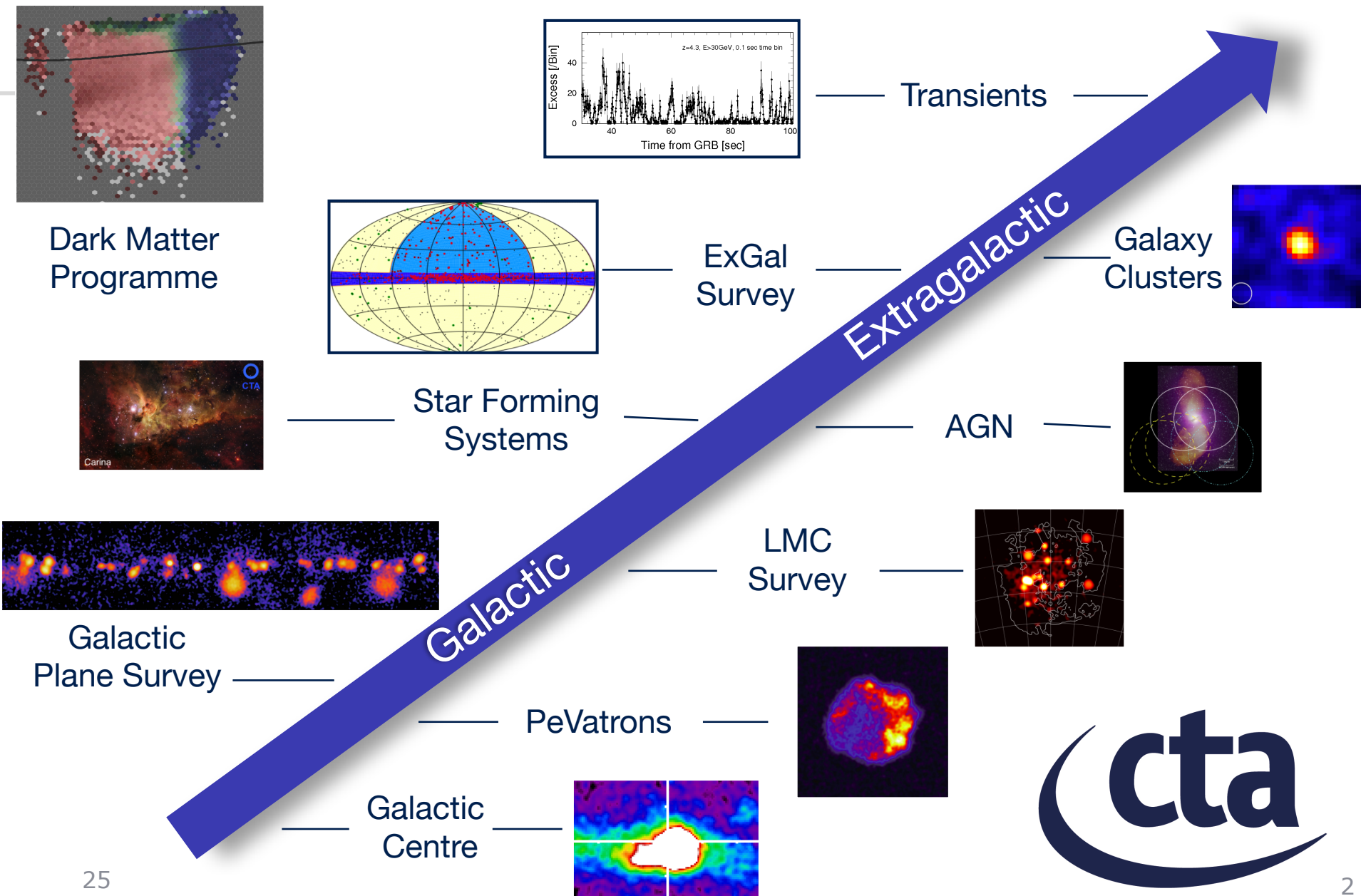
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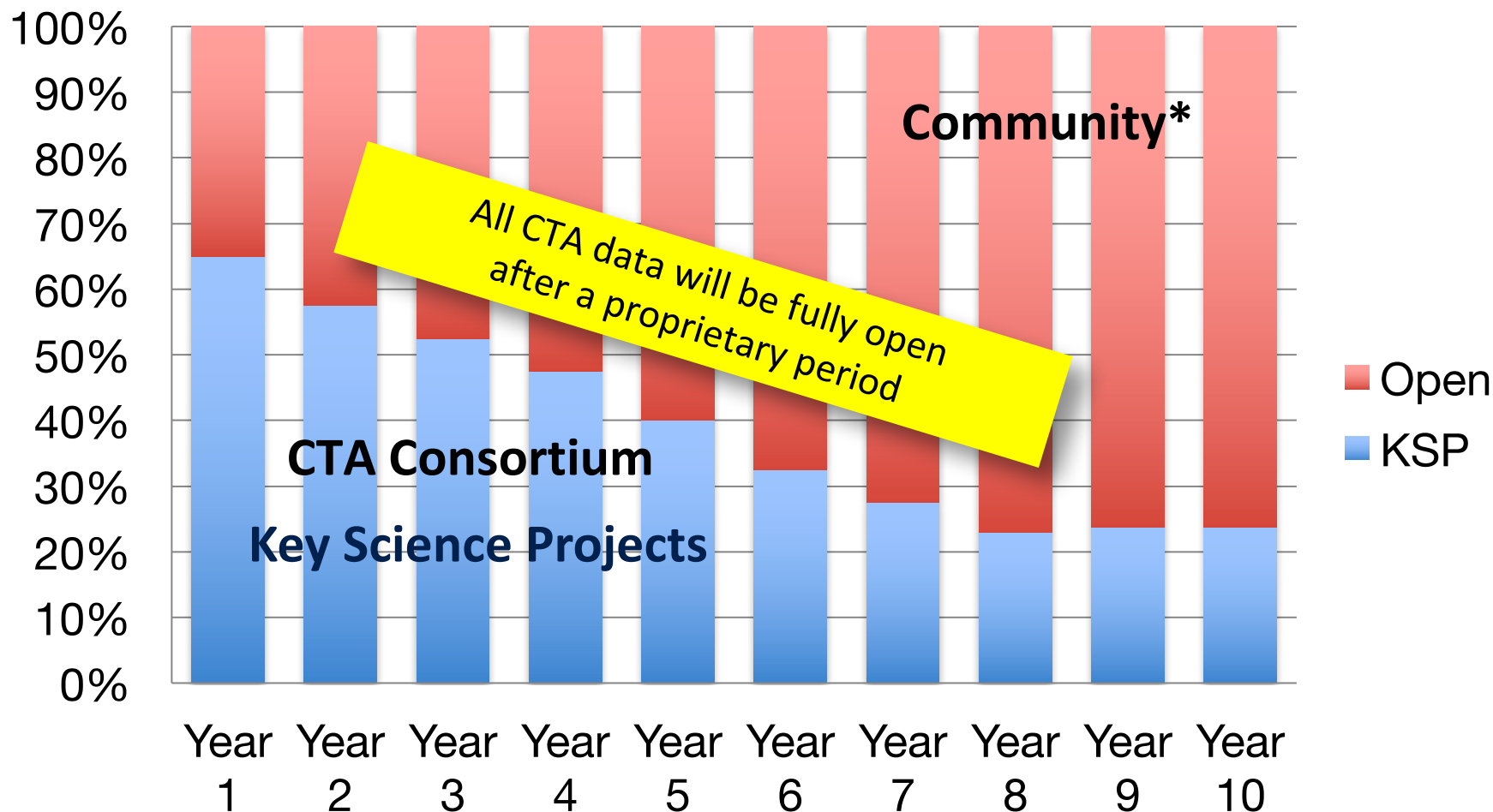
# Addressing new questions: CTA Key Science Projects



# Time Allocation & Community Access



## Tentative time allocation



\*of scientists from nations contributing to CTA construction and operations and from site host nations

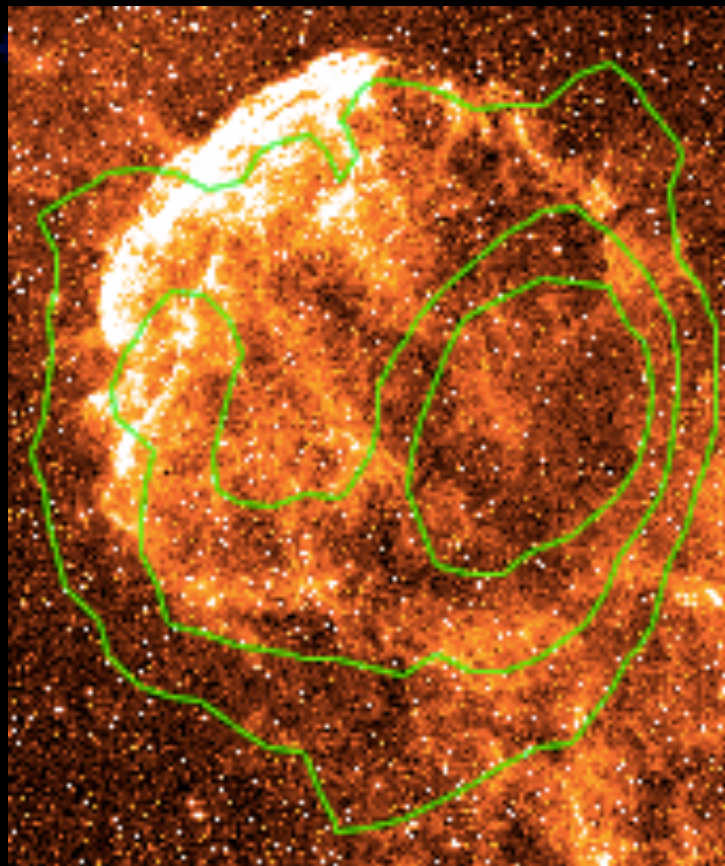
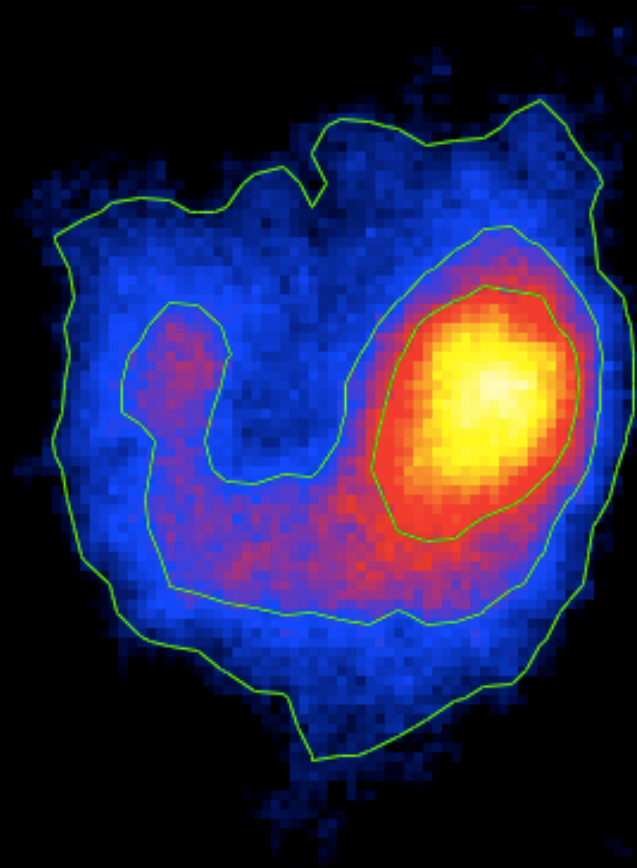
# Summary

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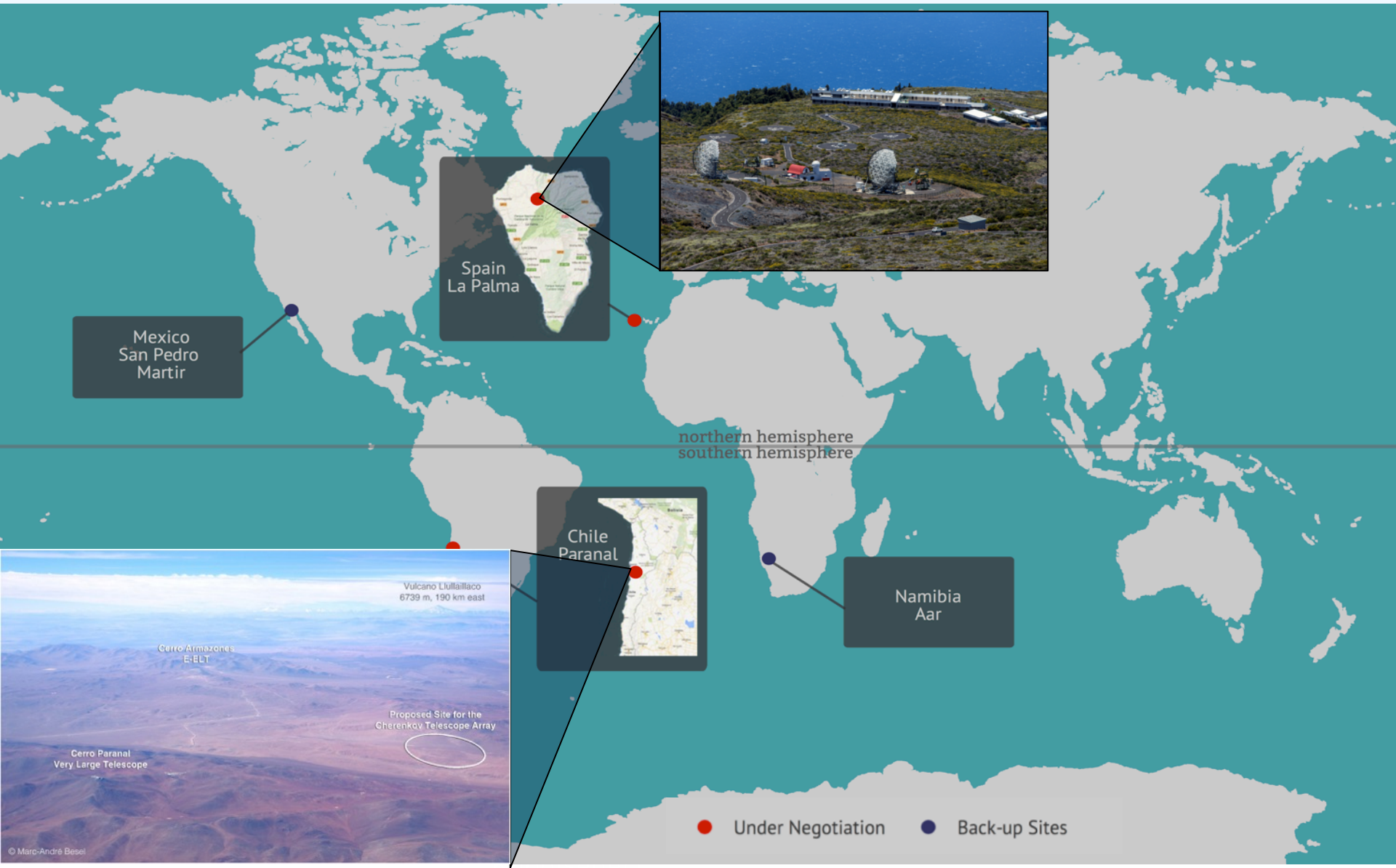
- TeV gamma-ray astronomy is rich with results, but is far from reaching its full potential.
- Great progress has been made on many of the original questions.
- The answers lead to new (and interesting) questions!
- See Brian Humensky’s talk at this meeting for prospects for gamma-ray searches for astrophysical neutrino counterparts.



# IC 443 with VERITAS



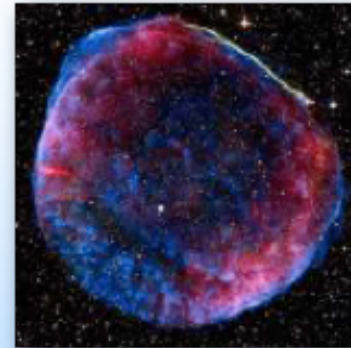
# SITES



# New Questions: CTA Science Themes

## Cosmic Particle Acceleration

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



## Probing Extreme Environments

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



## Physics frontiers – beyond the Standard Model

- 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?





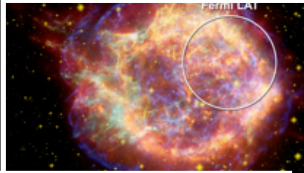
# Broad Spectrum of Science

## Particle Acceleration

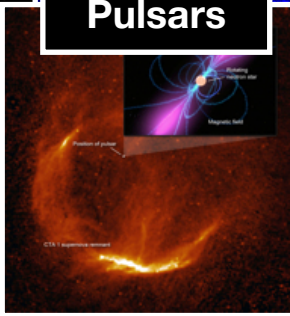
### Cosmic Rays



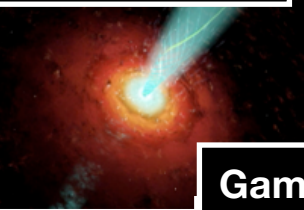
### Supernova Remnants



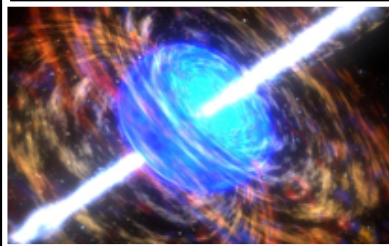
### Pulsars



### Active Galactic Nuclei

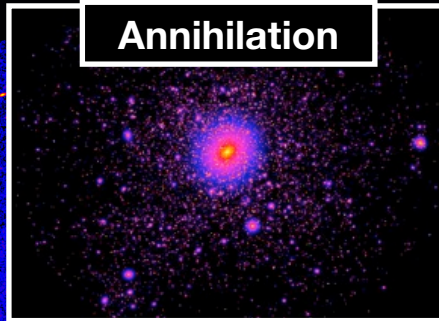


### Gamma-ray Bursts



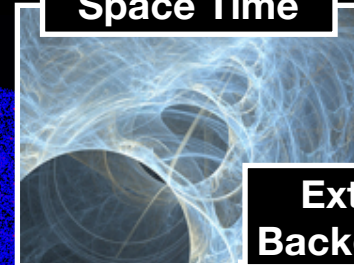
## Dark Matter

### Annihilation

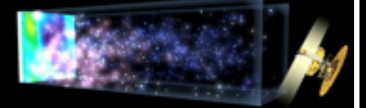


## Cosmology

### Space Time



### Extragalactic Background Light



### Primordial Black Holes

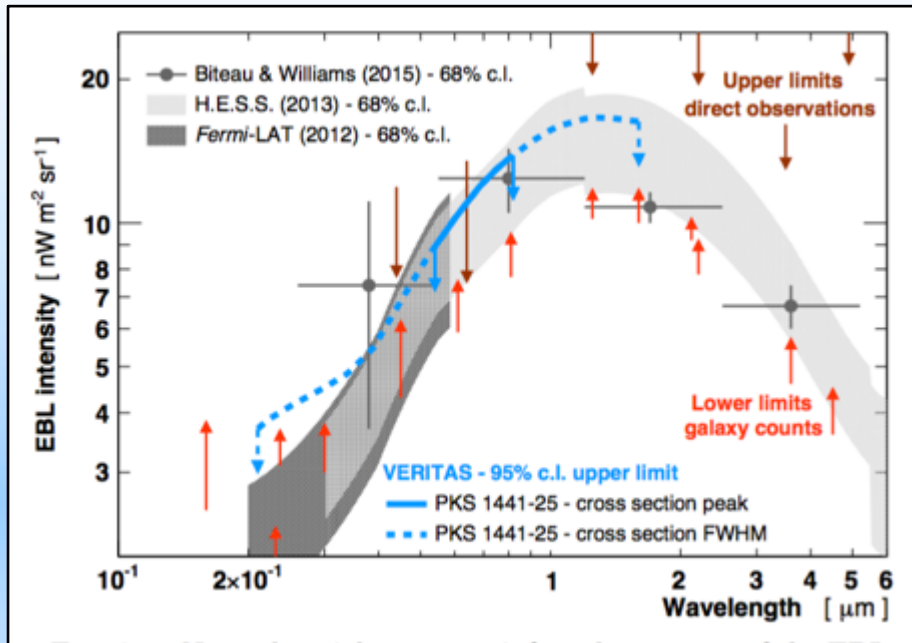
### Axion-like Particles

... ?

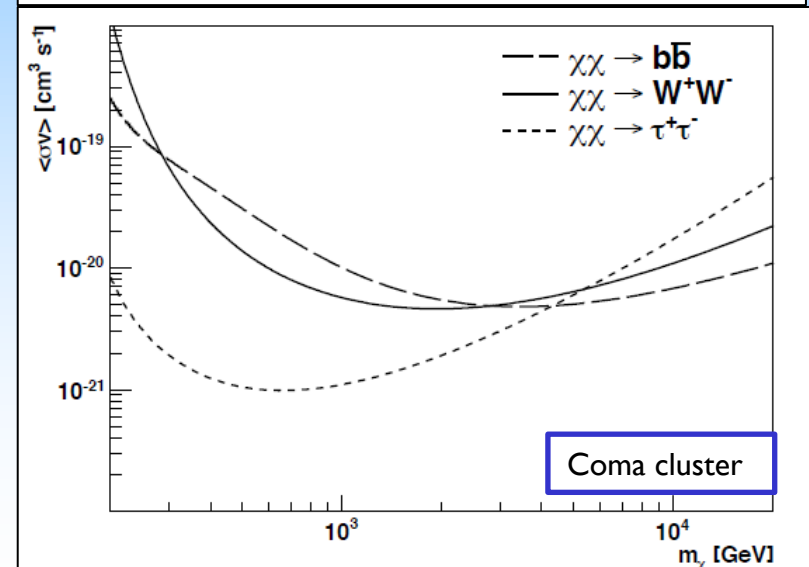
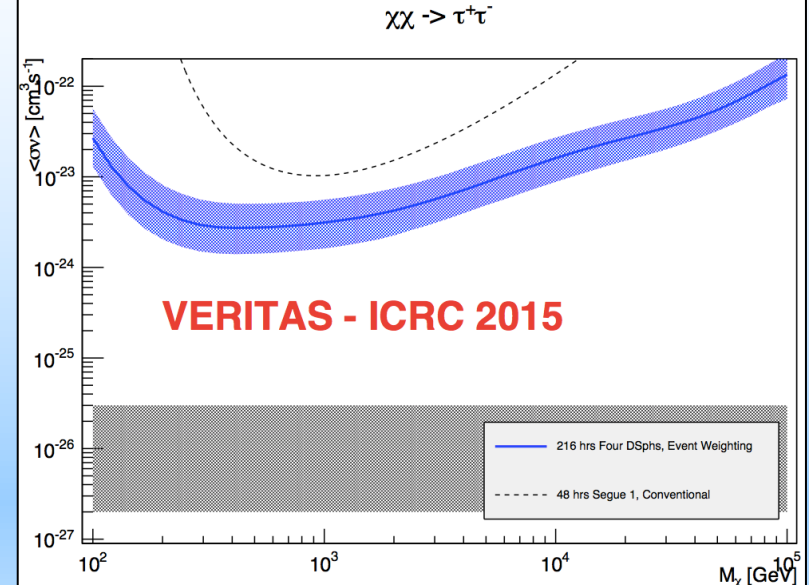
Opens discovery space by major improvements in sensitivity, FoV, energy range

# Particle Astrophysics and Fundamental Physics

Using distant blazars as **cosmological probes**



Hunting for **dark matter** in dwarf spheroidals and galaxy clusters



**Cosmic ray measurements**

