

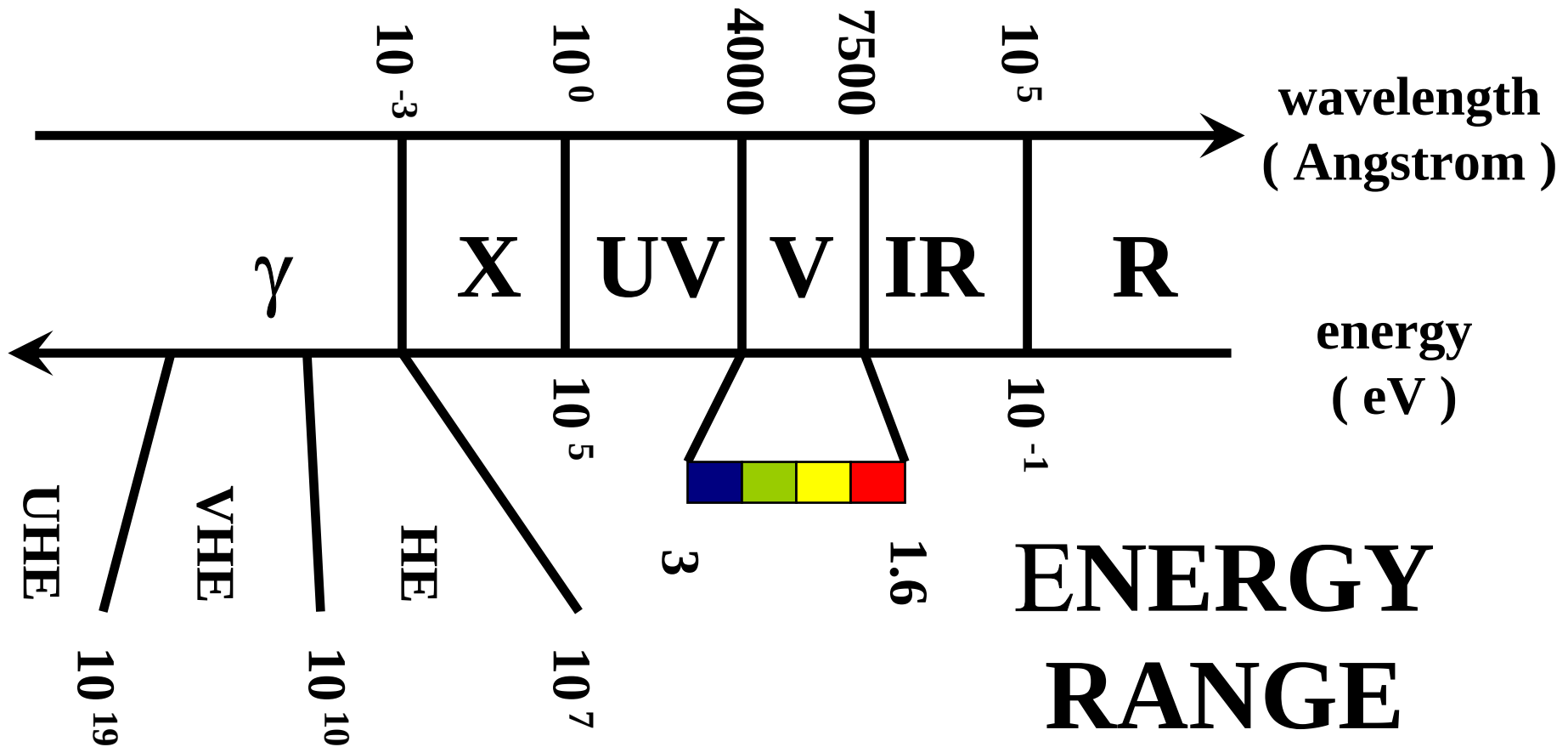
MAGIC

(the Major Atmospheric Gamma Imaging Cerenkov telescope)

Alessio Piccioli

*Università di Siena and I.N.F.N. Sezione di Pisa
for the MAGIC Collaboration*

γ -ray astrophysics : energy



γ -ray astrophysics : distance

PARSEC $1 \text{ pc} = 10^{18} \text{ cm}$

EARTH



10^3 pc



SNR

10^{-5} pc

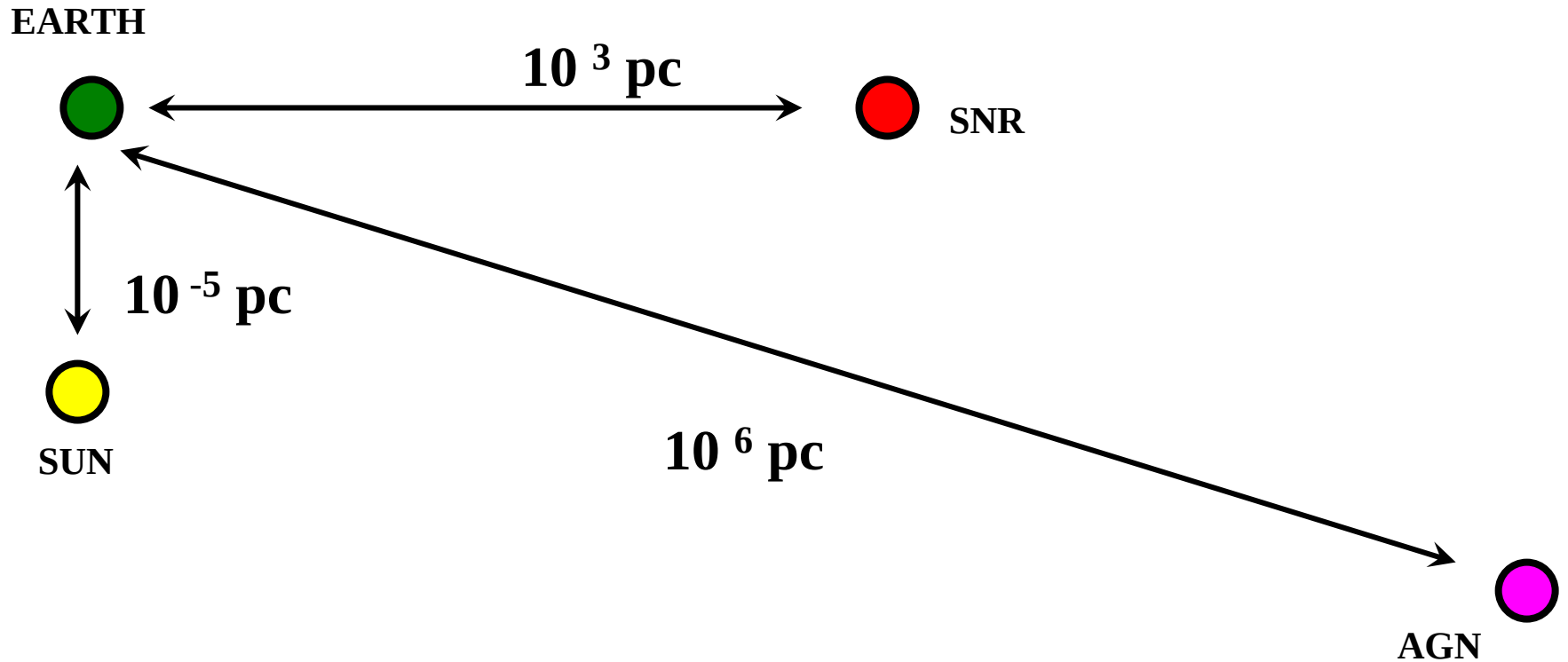


SUN

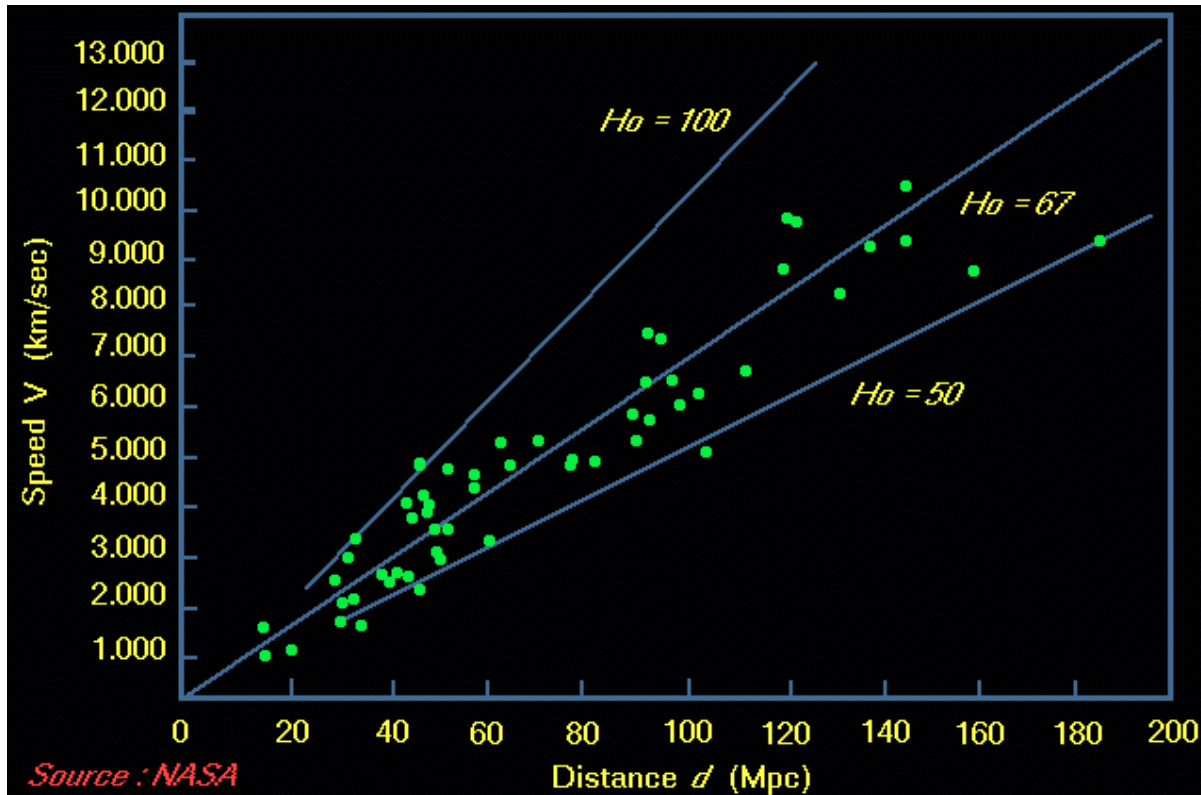
10^6 pc



AGN



γ -ray astrophysics : redshift



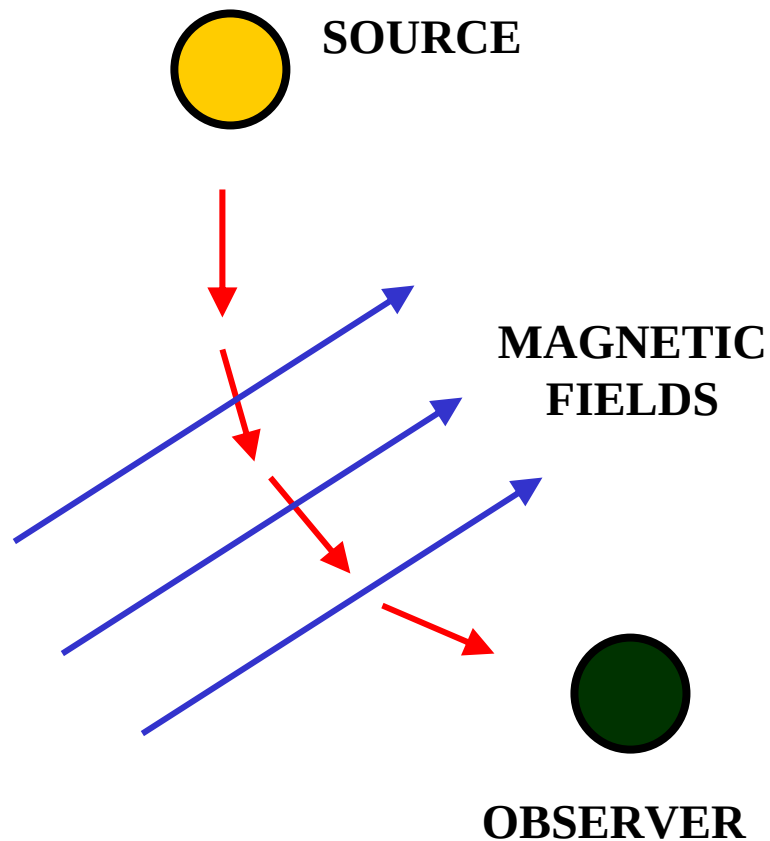
Hubble law
 $V \propto d$

Doppler Effect
 $z \propto V$

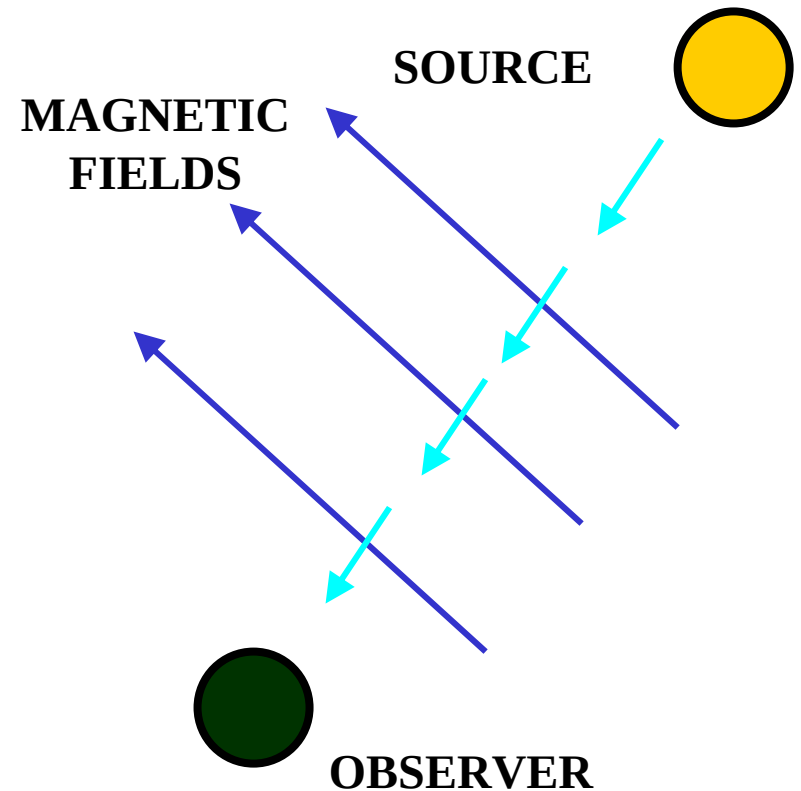
DISTANCE
 $z \propto d$

γ -ray astrophysics : direction

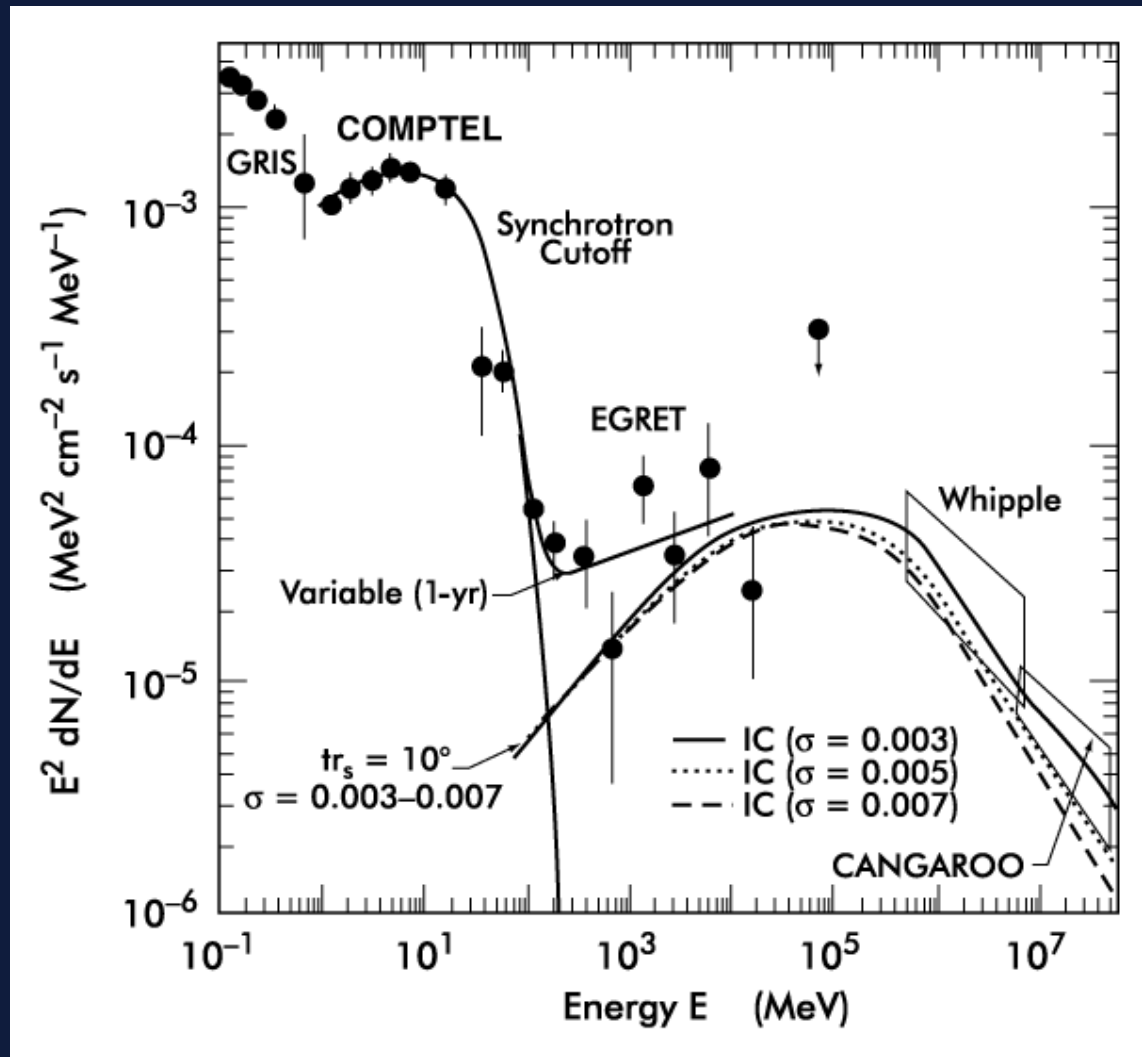
Charged Particles



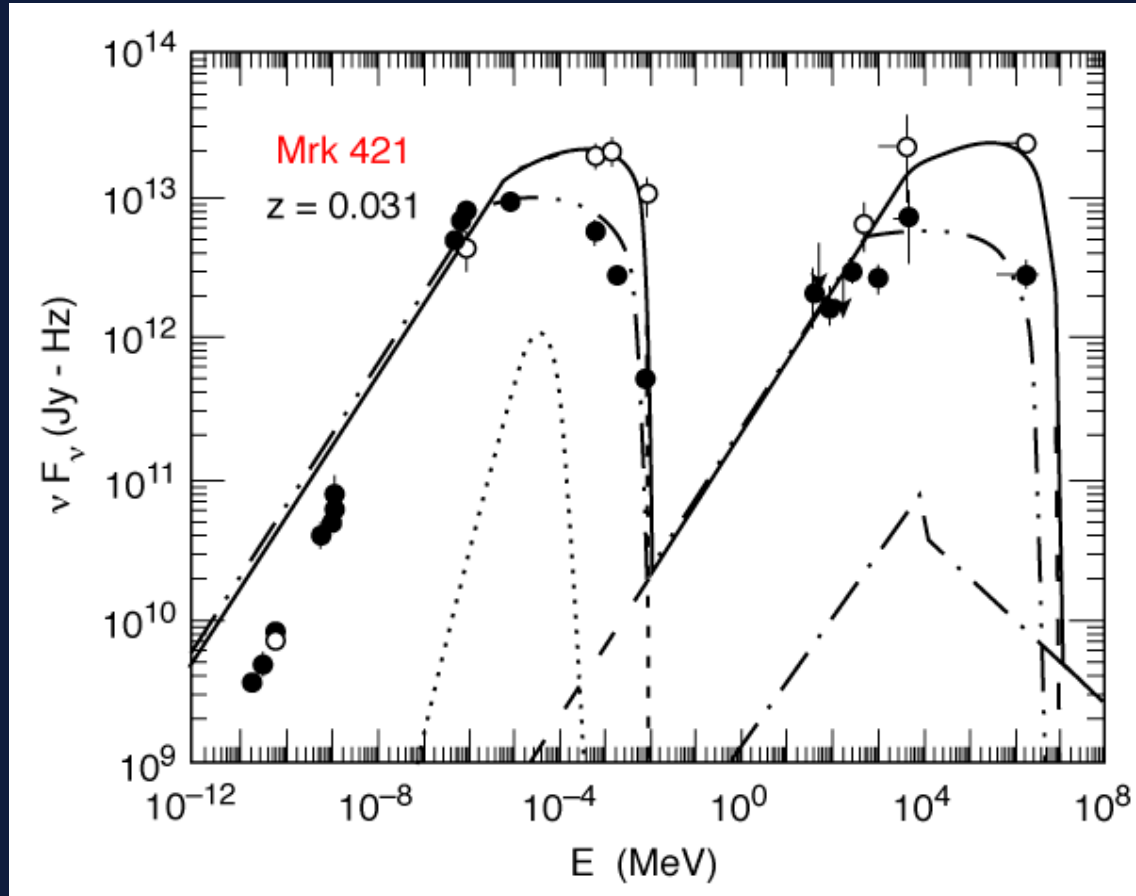
Neutral Particles



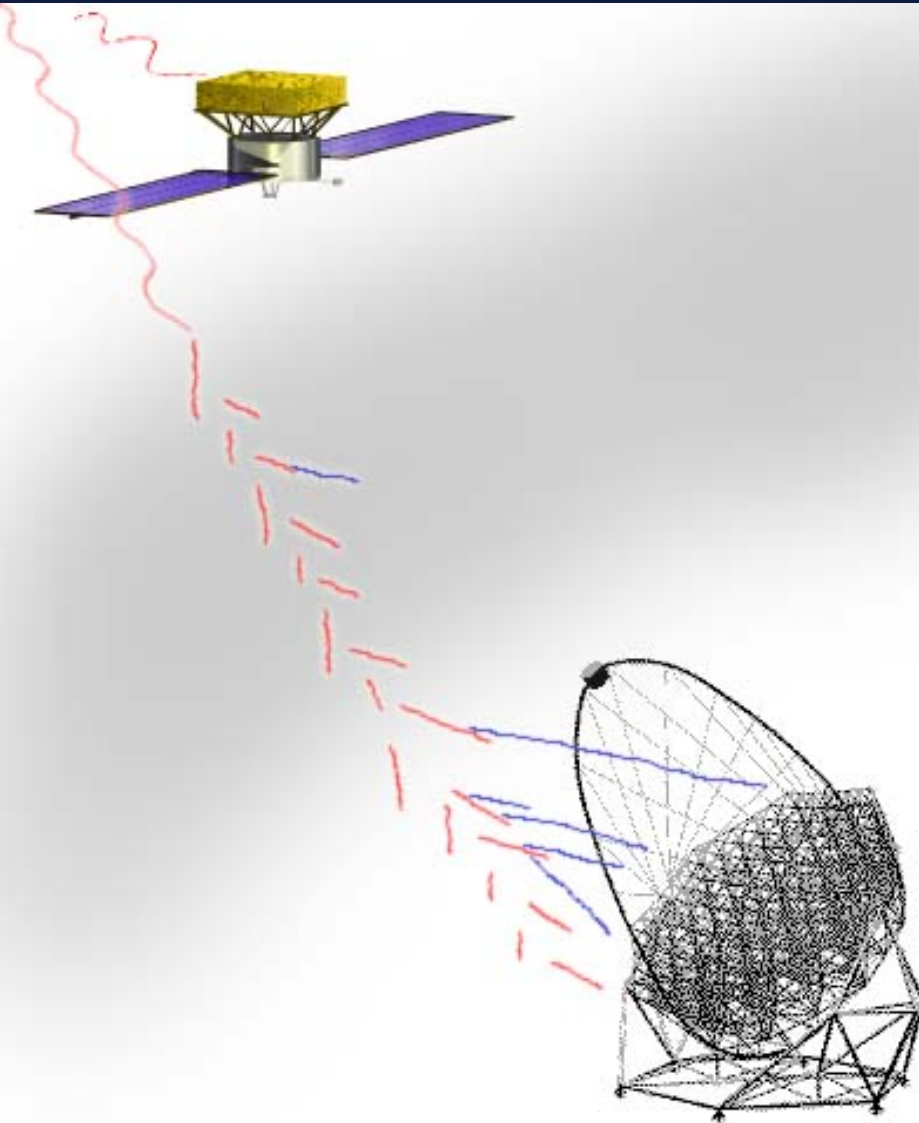
Energy Spectrum (CRAB)



Energy Spectrum (MRK 421)



Cosmic Ray Detection Approaches



Space detectors

Large field of view

Small collection area ($\sim 1 \text{ m}^2$)

Energy sensitivity up to $\sim 100 \text{ GeV}$

Ground detectors

Small field of view

Large collection area ($\sim 3 \cdot 10^4 \text{ m}^2$)

Energy sensitivity from $\sim 10 \text{ GeV}$

$\Rightarrow$ Large Cherenkov Telescope

Optimised for:

- low threshold: $E_\gamma < 30 \text{ GeV}$
- fast repositioning: $t_R < 30 \text{ s.}$

Many new technological elements

Atmospheric showers

QuickTime™ and a
MPEG-4 Video decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

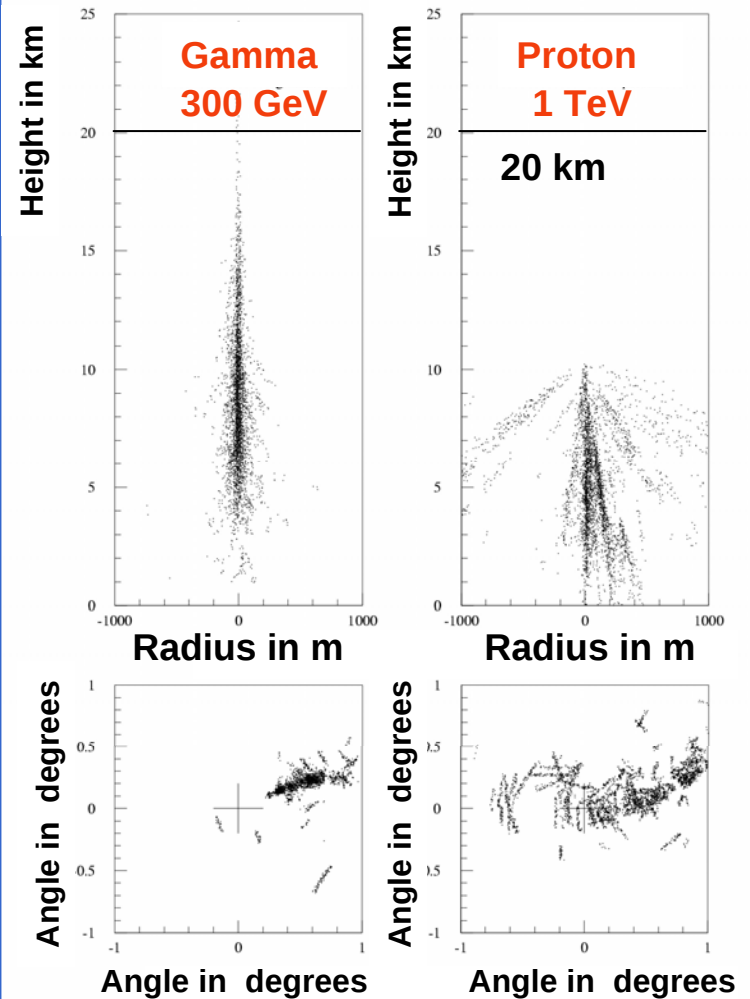
Air Showers

Air showers induced by cosmic rays

air shower
hadronic
gamma photons
differently

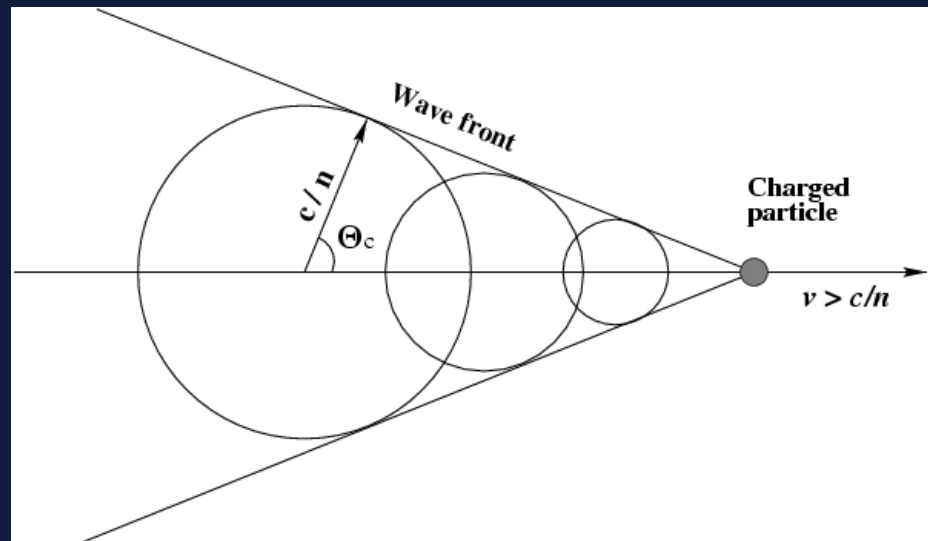
Cherenkov light

MC Simulation of Shower



QuickTime™ and a
Video decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

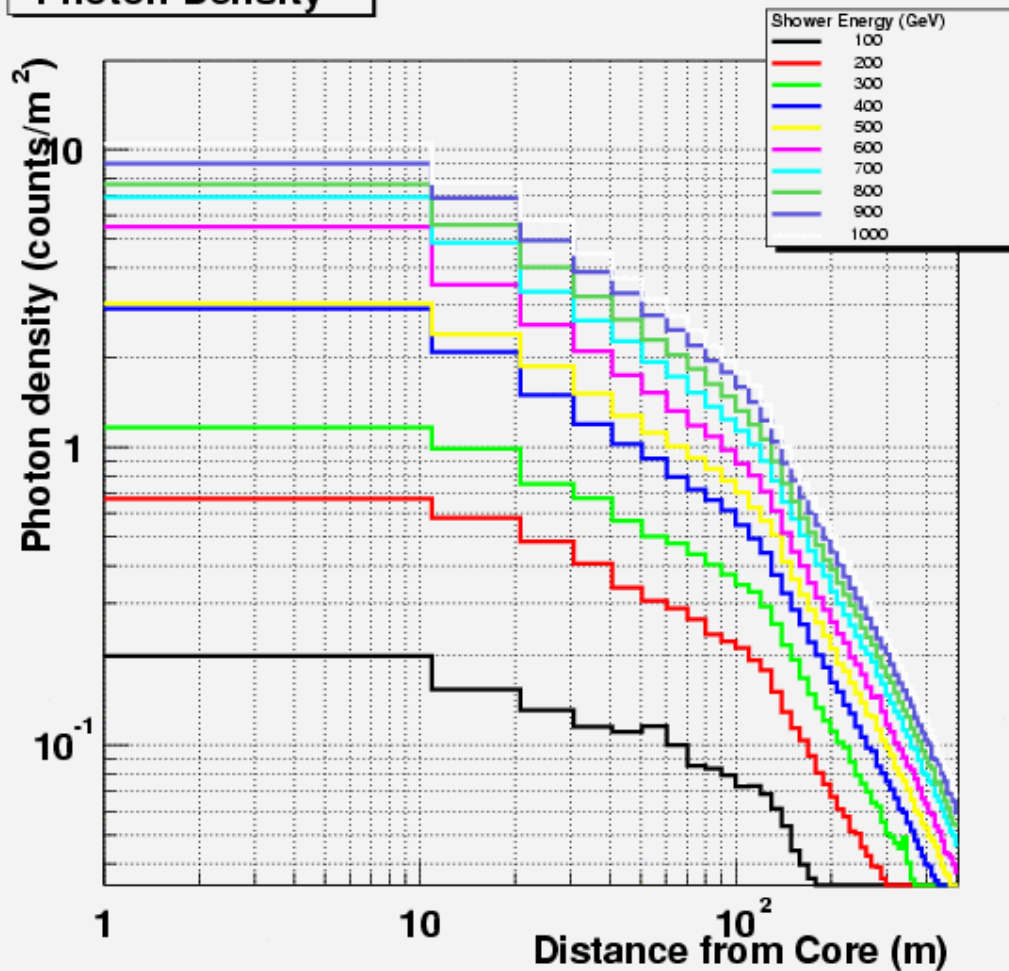
CERENKOV EFFECT



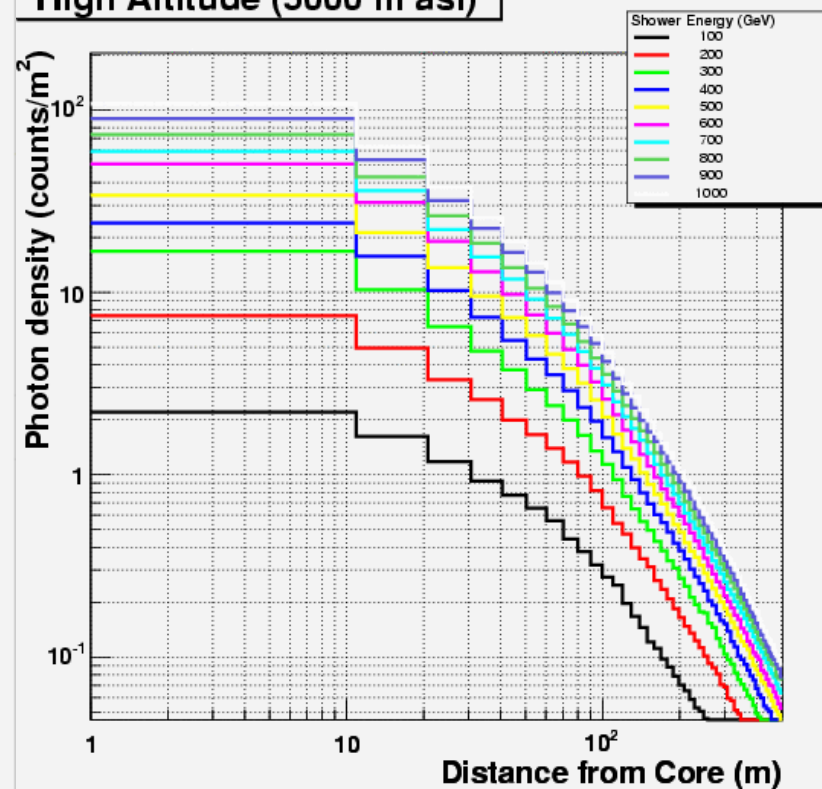
Atmospheric showers and Cerenkov light

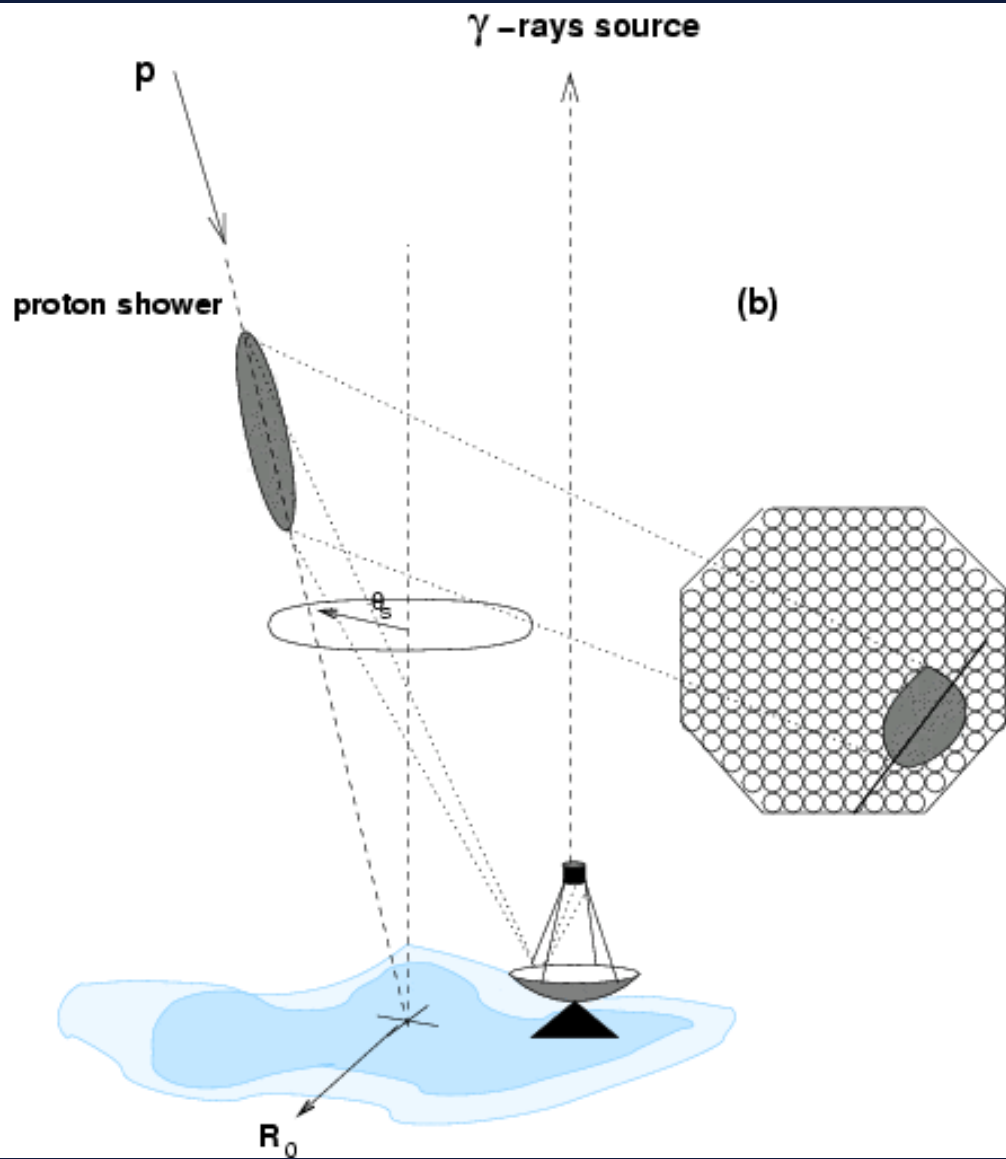
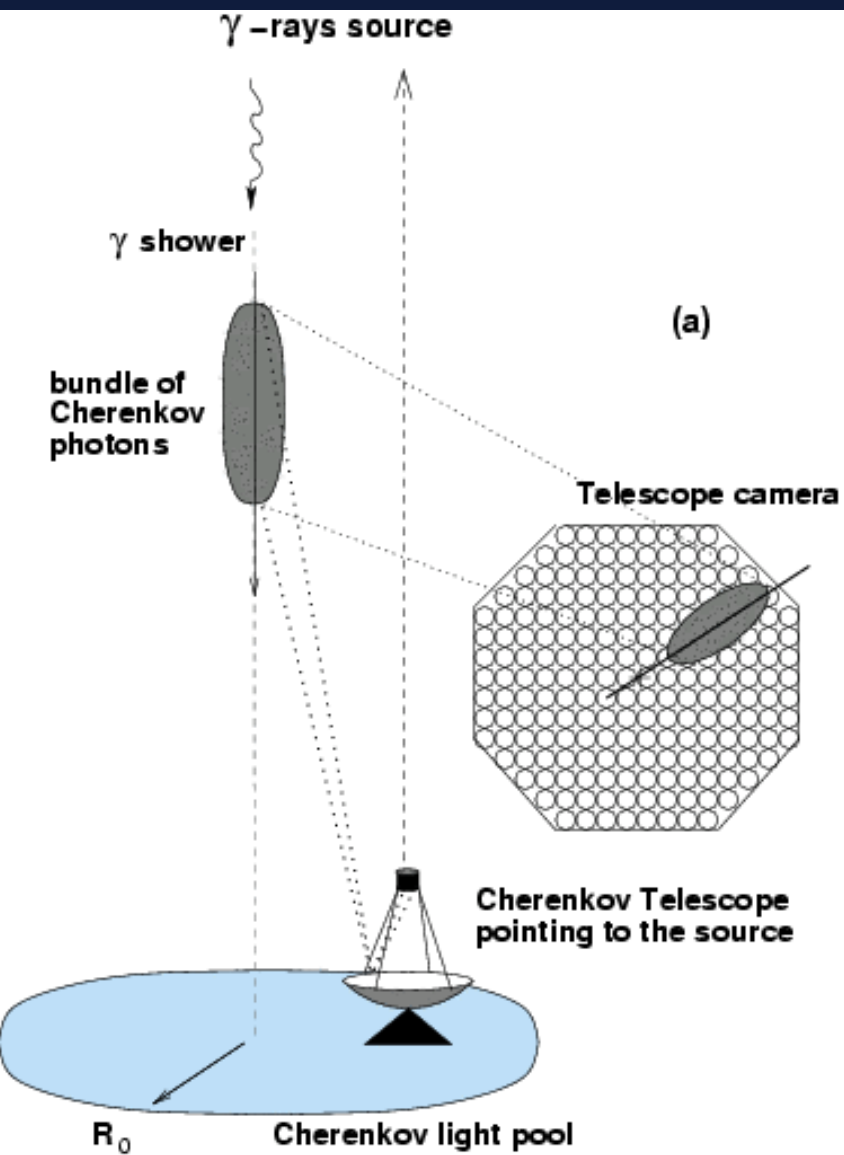
QuickTime™ and a
MPEG-4 Video decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

Photon Density



High Altitude (5000 m asl)



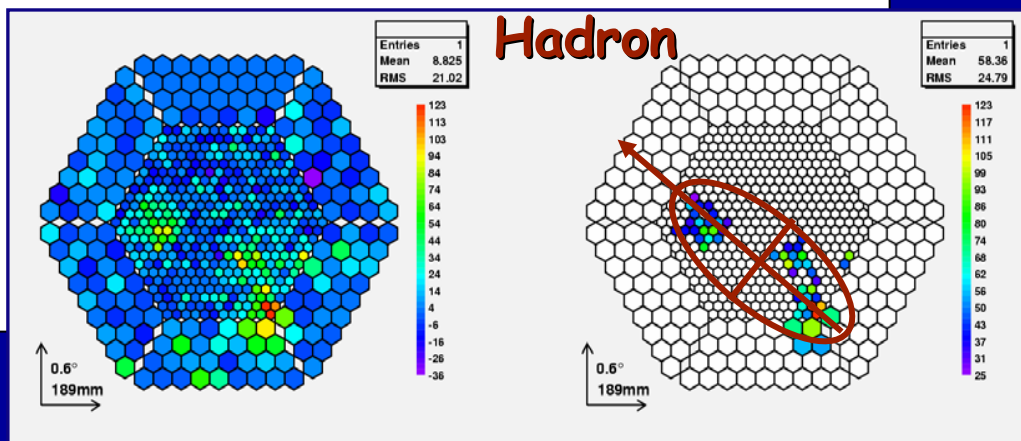
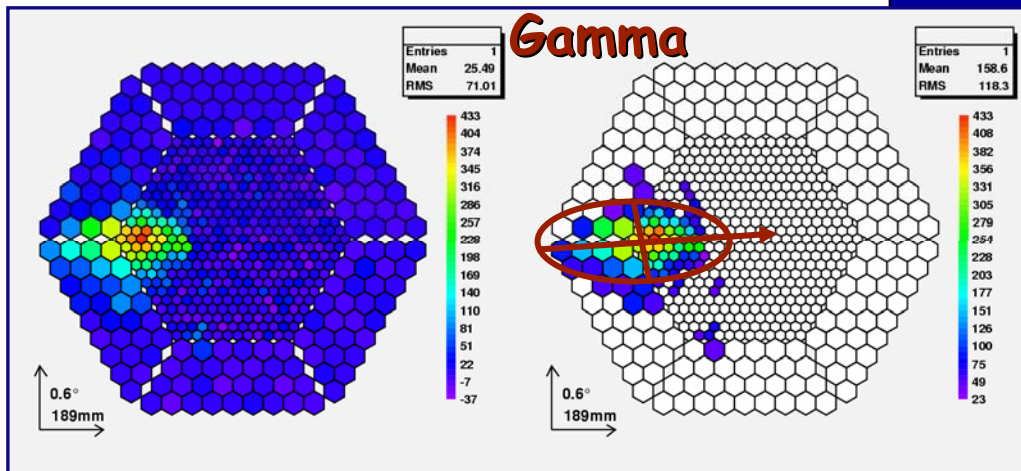
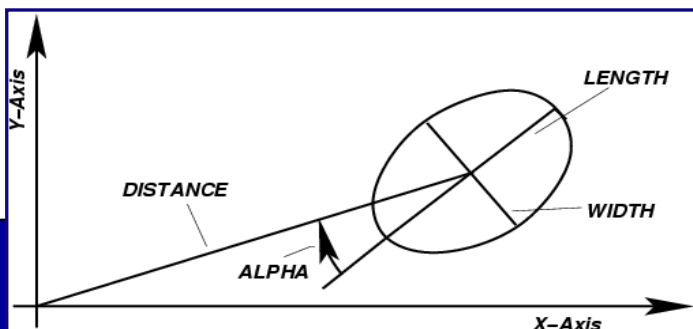


Analysis

„Hillas parameters“

reduction

- Source in center



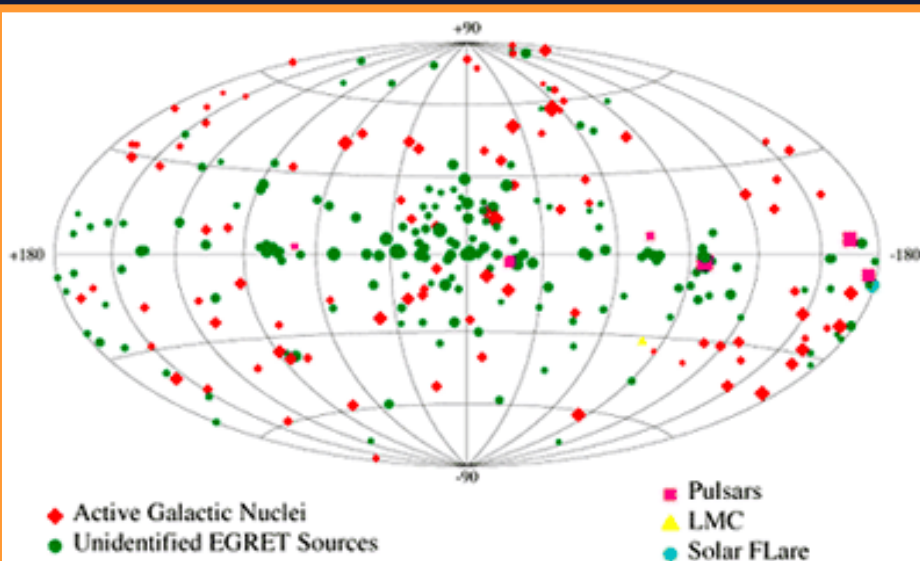
IACT PARAMETERS

- Angular resolution

Energy Threshold

Sensitivity

The Gamma Ray Universe



EGRET

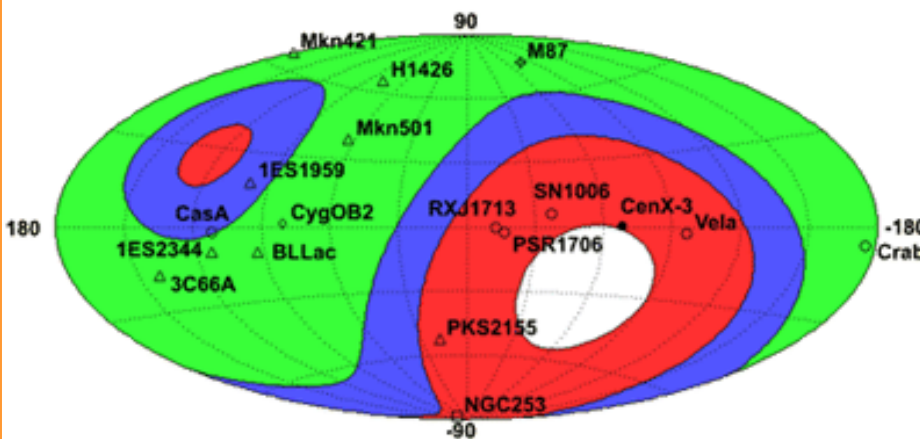
- $100 \text{ MeV} < E_\gamma < 10 \text{ GeV}$
- $A \sim 0.15 \text{ m}^2$

> 270 sources (170 unidentified)

First Generation IACTs

- $E_\gamma > 300 \text{ GeV}$
- $A \sim 40000 \text{ m}^2$

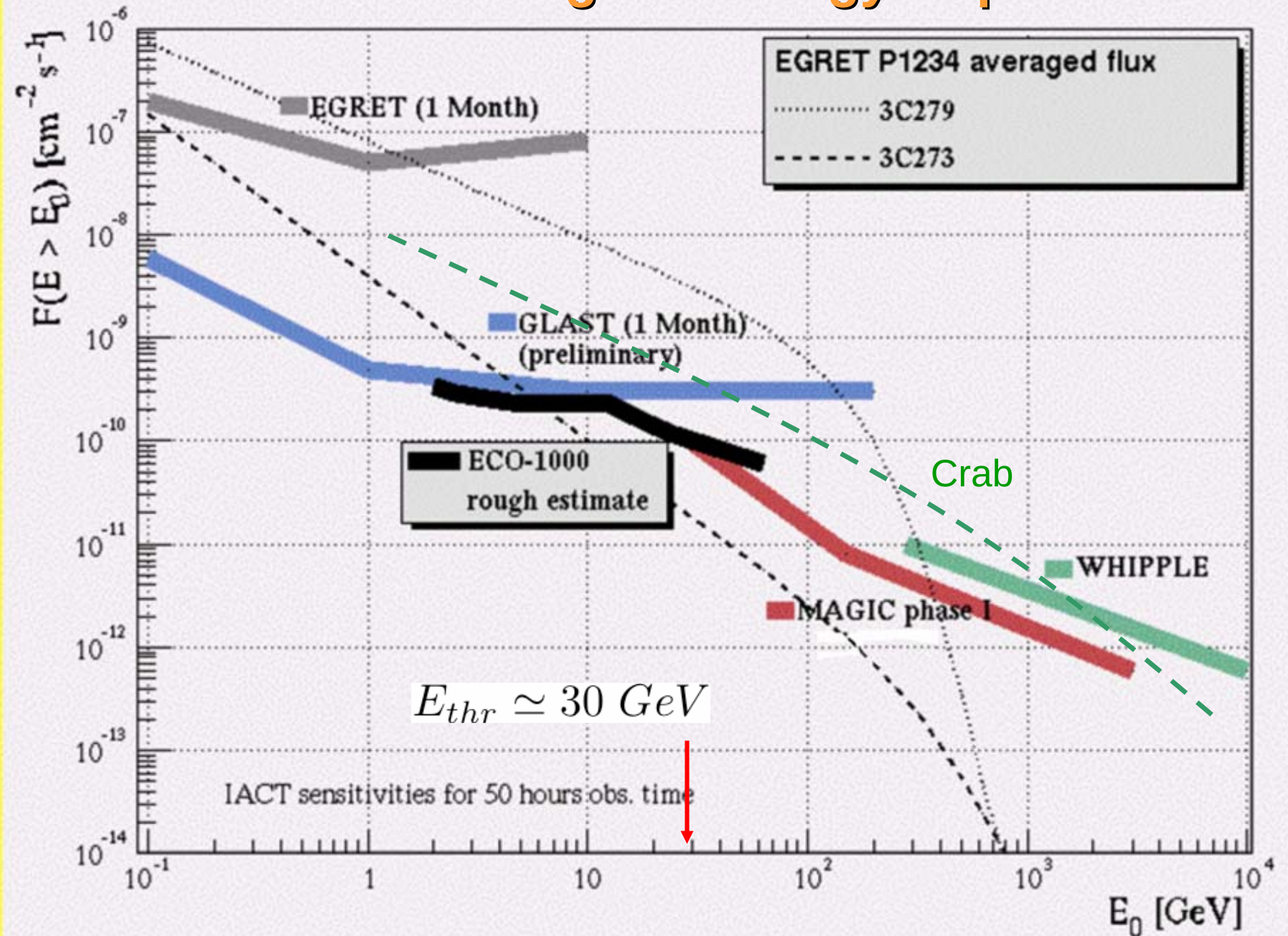
~ 10 sources



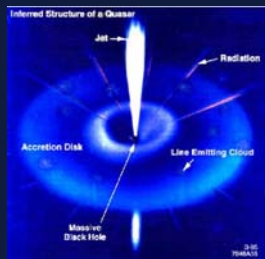
Something must happen in

$$10 \text{ GeV} < E_\gamma < 300 \text{ GeV}$$

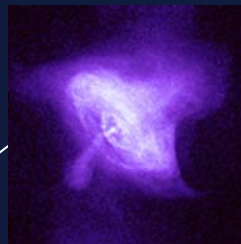
Covering the Energy Gap



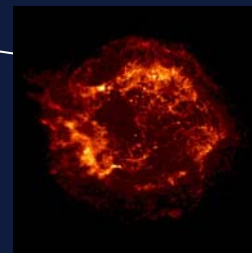
MAGIC Physics Targets



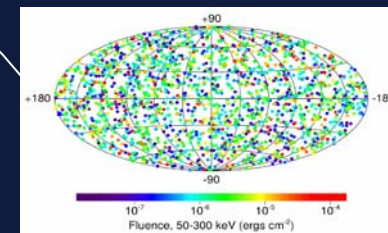
AGNs



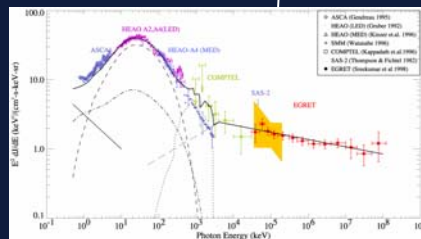
Pulsars



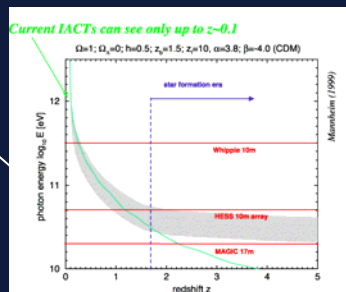
SNRs



GRBs



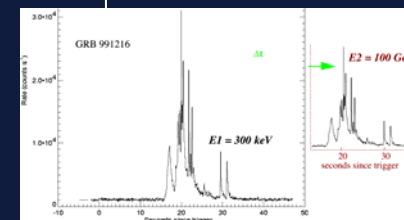
Diffuse γ
Background



Cosmological γ
Horizon



Cold Dark
matter



Quantum
Gravity

Optical Depth and Gamma Ray Horizon (GRH)

High energy γ -rays traversing cosmological distances are expected to be absorbed through interaction with **EBL**:

$$\gamma_E \gamma_\epsilon \longrightarrow e^+ e^-$$

Absorption is modeled by:

$$\frac{dN}{dE} = K E^{-\Gamma} \cdot e^{-\tau(E,z)}$$

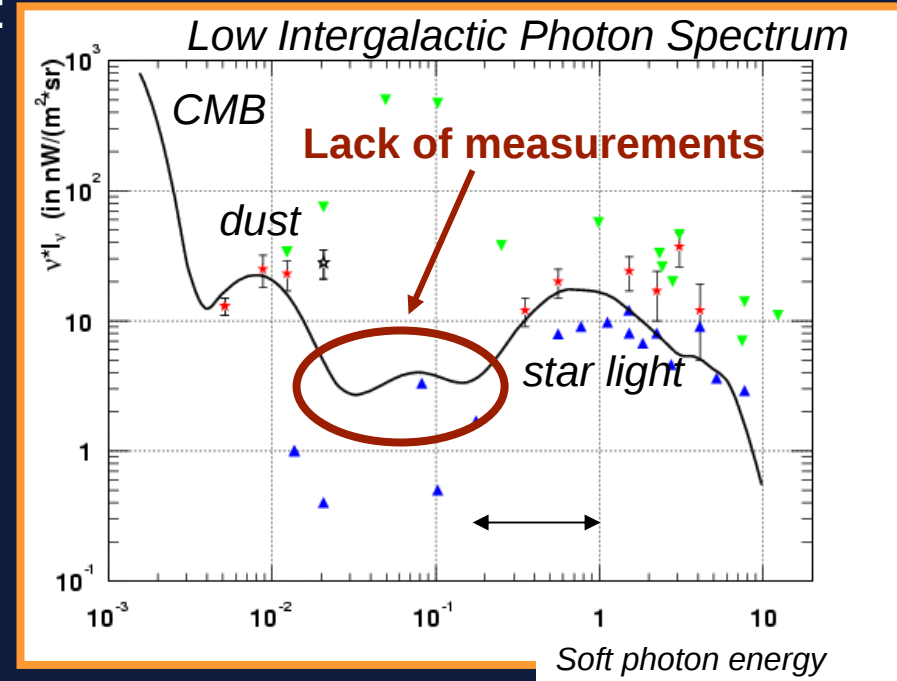
The Gamma Ray Horizon is defined by:

$$\tau(E, z) = 1$$

Optical Depth

$$\tau(E, z) = \int_0^z \frac{d\ell}{dz'} dz' \int_0^2 \frac{x}{2} dx \int_{\frac{2m^2 c^4}{Ex(1+z')^2}}^{\infty} n(\epsilon, z') \underbrace{\sigma [2xE(1+z')^2]}_{\text{Bethe-Heitler cross section}} d\epsilon$$

Bethe-Heitler cross section



Stecker, De Jager: astro-ph/9501065

Kneiske, Mannheim, Hartmann: Astron. Astrophys. 386 (2001) 1

Measurement of Cosmological Parameters

The GRH is a distance estimator based on the absorption, depends on:

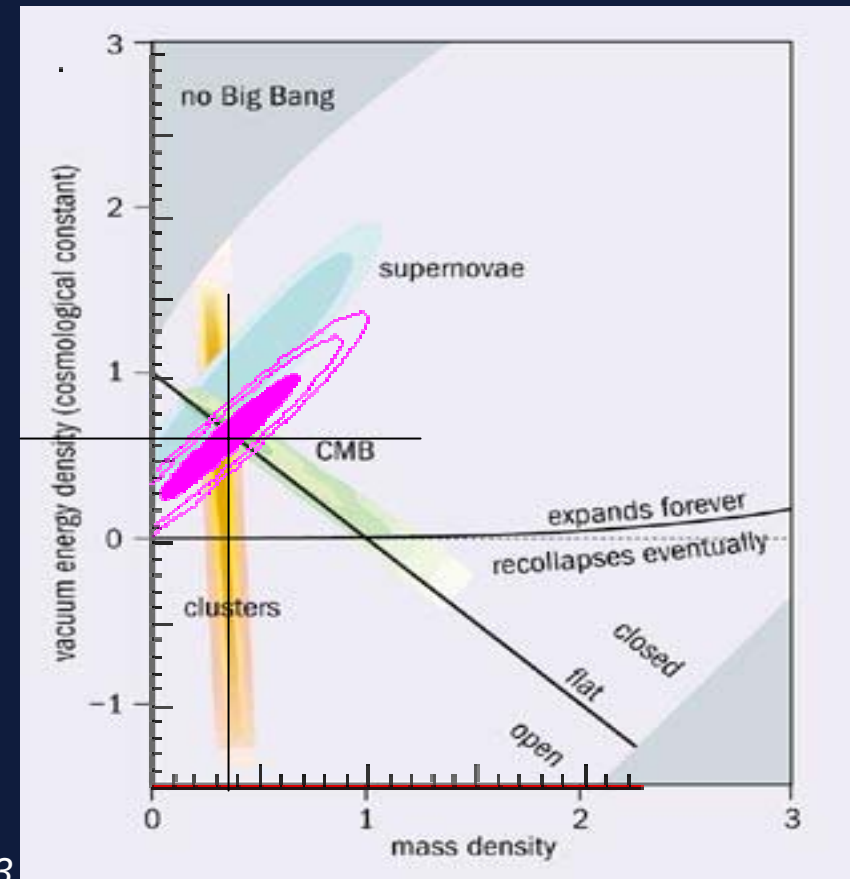
- the γ -ray path
- the Hubble constant and the cosmological densities

$$\frac{d\ell}{dz} = c \cdot \frac{1/(1+z)}{H_0 [\Omega_M(1+z)^3 + \Omega_K(1+z)^2 + \Omega_\Lambda]^{1/2}}$$

Ho known at the level of 4 km/s/Mpc
(Hubble project)

$$\begin{aligned} H_0 &= 68.5 \pm 1.6 \text{ km/s/Mpc} \\ \Omega_M &= 0.35^{+0.21}_{-0.20} \\ \Omega_\Lambda &= 0.65^{+0.24}_{-0.25} \end{aligned} \quad \text{MINOS}$$

$\Rightarrow$ The $\Delta\chi^2=2.3$ 2-parameter contour improves by more than a factor 2 the present Supernovae combined result !



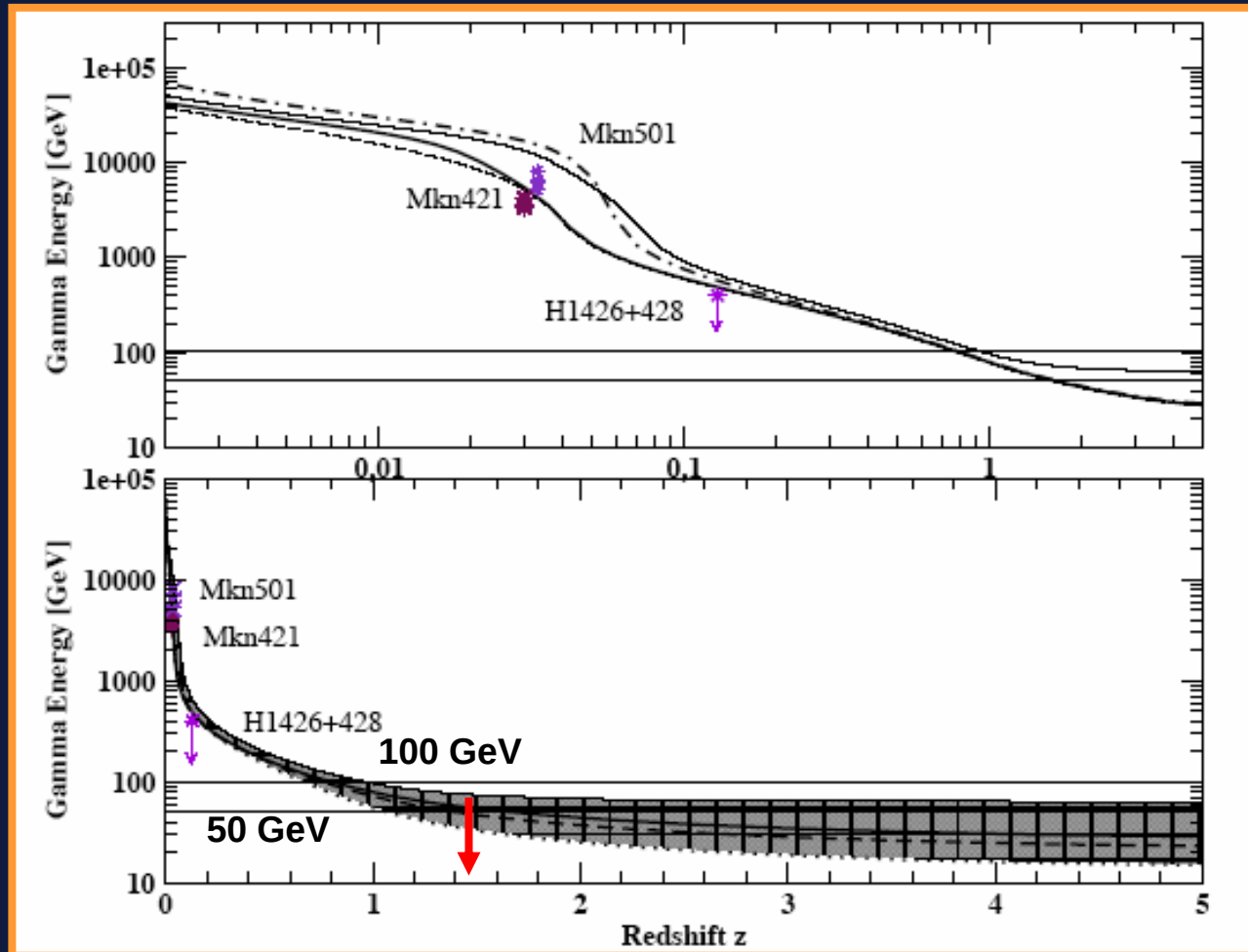
O. Blanch, M. Martinez - ICRC 2003

A. Piccioli, Università di Siena and I.N.F.N. Sezione di Pisa

Fazio-Stecker Relation

Measuring the Fazio-Stecker relation is of great diagnostic value for:

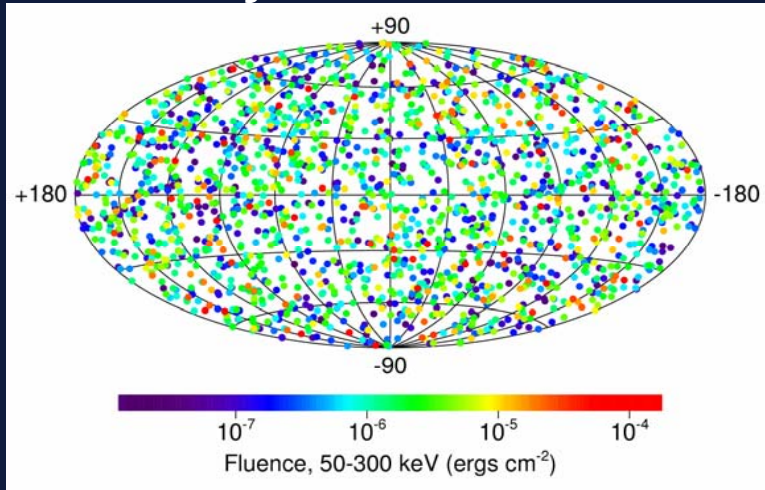
- star formation in optically-obscured IR galaxies
- stellar sources of UV radiation at high z
- star formation rate at high z (~ 1.5)



Kneiske et al.
[astro-ph/0309141](https://arxiv.org/abs/astro-ph/0309141)

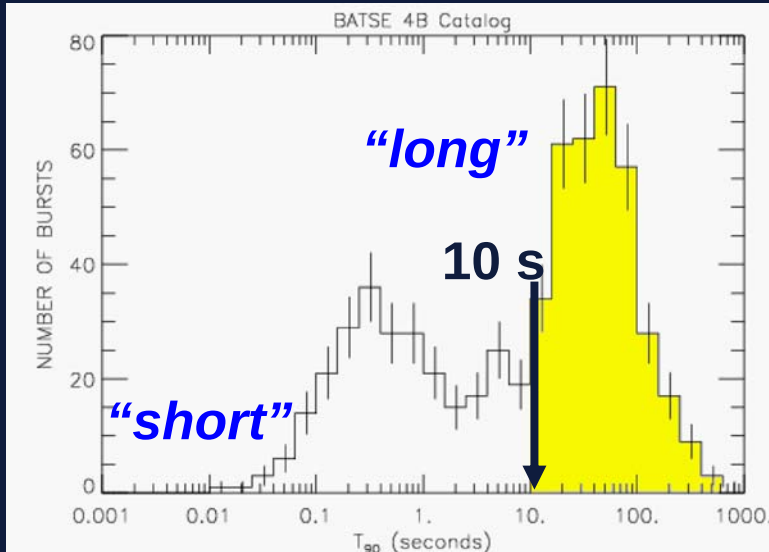
Gamma Ray Bursts

Uniformity



- Origin of GRBs
 - Galactic
 - Cosmological
- Theoretical Emission Models:
 - Standard fireball model
 - Internal Shocks model
 - External Shock model
- Multiwavelength study
- GeV studies possible if:
 - fast repositioning ~ 10 s
 - low E threshold ~ 30 GeV
- From BATSE catalog $\sim 50/\text{year}$
 - Expected signal rate $6 \div 600$ Hz (in $[10\text{s}, T]$ assuming $T \sim 20\text{s}$)
 - $2 \div 3$ “long” GRBs detectable/year

Pulse Duration



What do we need to study GRBs ?

Alert System

High Energy Observations

“Faint” Objects

Rapid Variable Phenomena

Large Field Of View

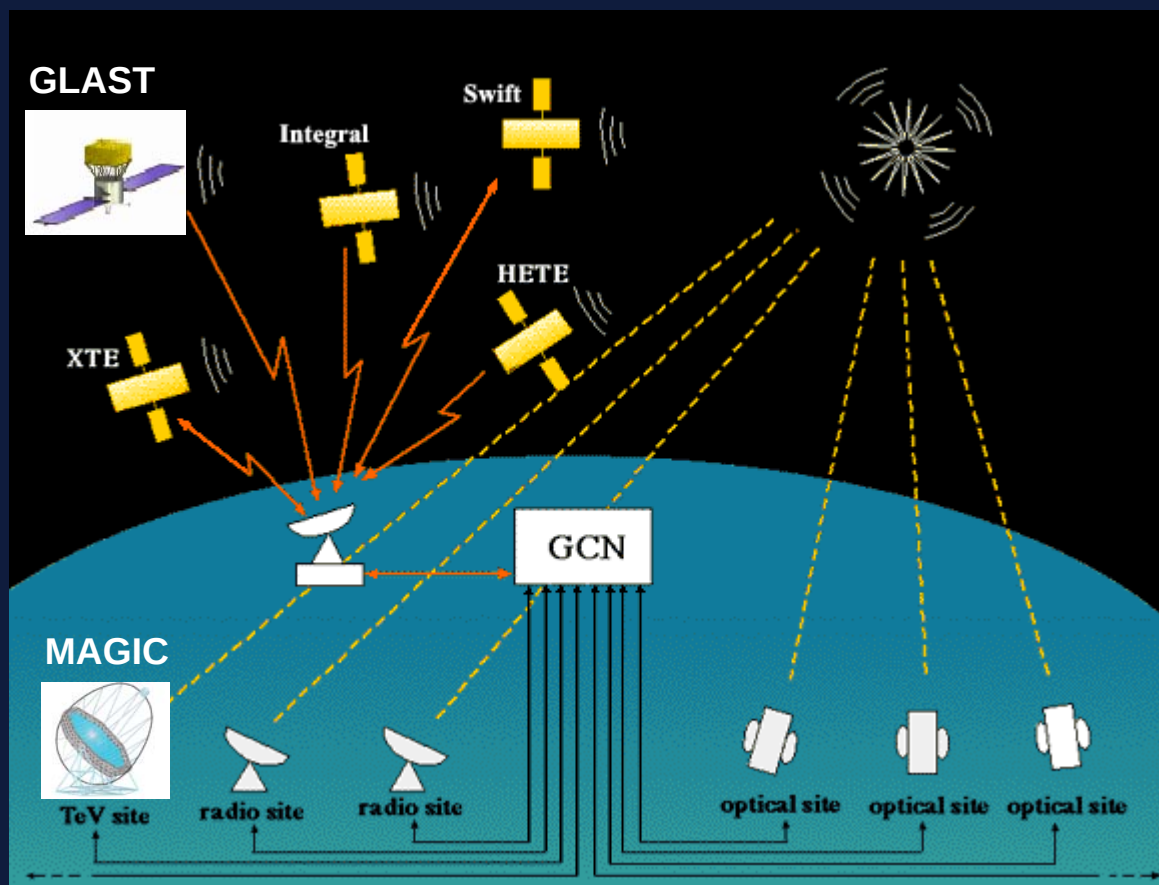
- Large Effective Area
- Short Dead Time $\sim 100 \mu\text{s}$
- High Acquisition Rate

Broad Band Observations

Connection between

Ground & Space Telescopes

- Rapid Response
- Good Localization
- Rapid Repositioning
- **Global Coordinate Network**



What do we need to study GRBs? Telescope Fast Movement

Mean Repositioning Time ~ 20 s

Point ANY place in the sky in ~ 30 s

QuickTime™ and a
YUV420 codec decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

The MAGIC Collaboration

~100 Physicists
17 Institutes
11 Countries

MPI Munich, Germany
U. Würzburg, Germany
U. Von Humboldt, Berlin, Germany

IFAE Barcelona, Spain
UAB Barcelona, Spain
UCM Madrid, Spain

U. Padova/INFN Padova, Italy
U. Siena/INFN Pisa, Italy
U. Udine/INFN Trieste, Italy

ETH, Zurich, Switzerland

Crimean Observatory, Ukraine
U.C. Davis, U.S.A.
U. Lodz, Poland

INR Moscow, Russia
U. Potchefstroom, South Africa
Tuorla Observatory, Finland
Yerevan Phys. Institute, Armenia

The Site: Roque de Los Muchachos



The Site: Roque de Los Muchachos

MAGIC Telescope

Control House

HEGRA-CTs



Lowering the Energy Threshold

Energy
Threshold

$$E \propto \sqrt{\frac{\phi \Omega \tau}{A \epsilon}}$$



Ω - Pixel Solid Angle
 τ - Integration time



A - Mirror Area
 ϵ - Quantum Efficiency

Lowering the Energy Threshold

Energy Threshold

$$E \propto \sqrt{\frac{\phi \Omega \tau}{A \epsilon}}$$

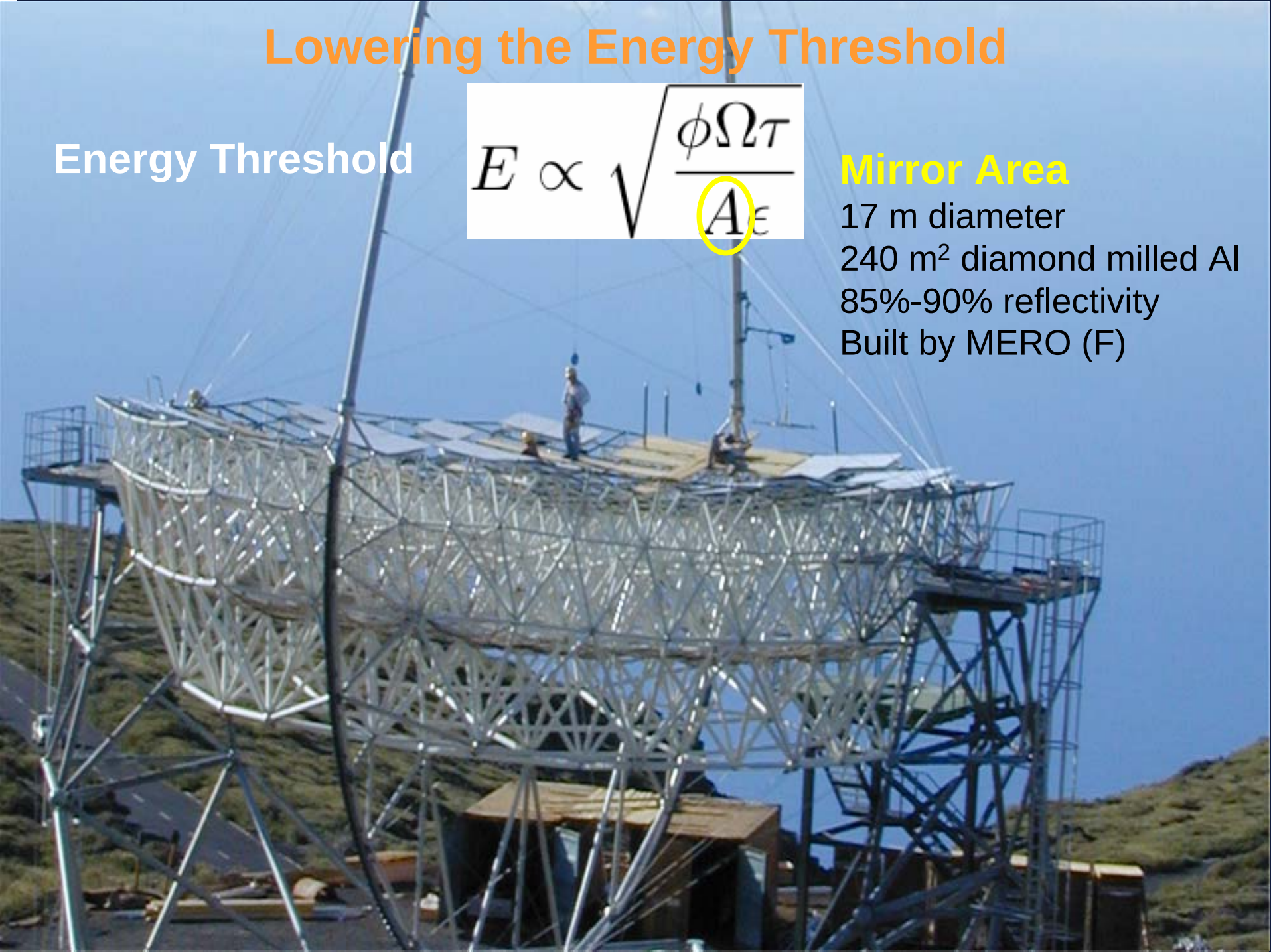
Mirror Area

17 m diameter

240 m² diamond milled Al

85%-90% reflectivity

Built by MERO (F)



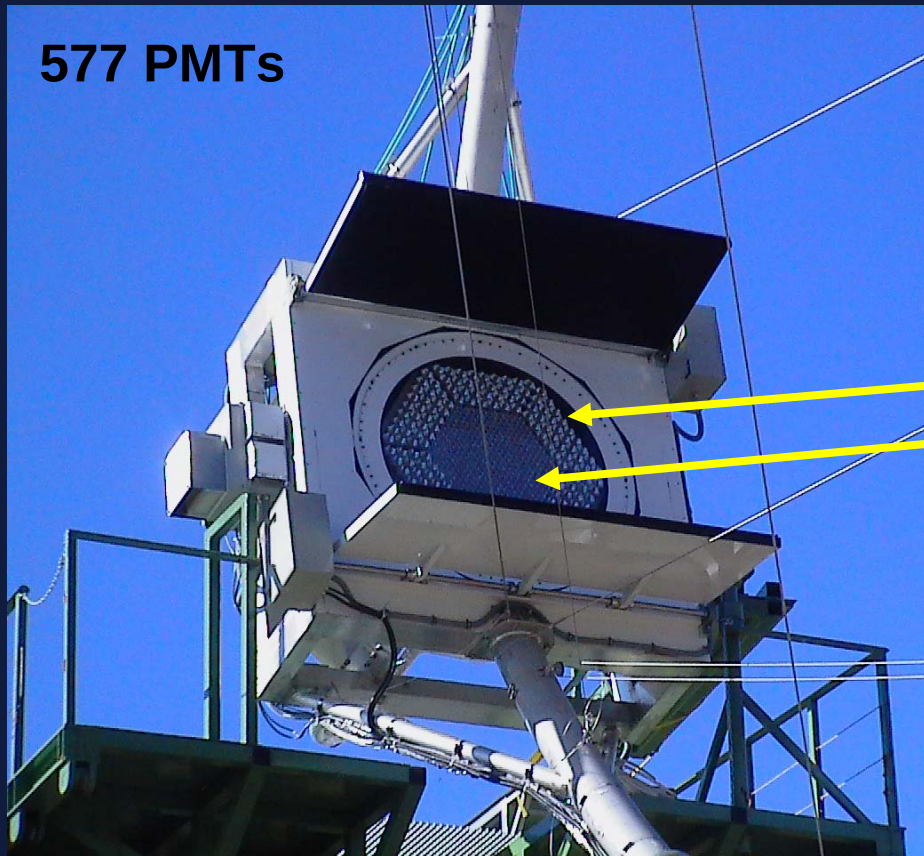
Lowering the Energy Threshold

Energy Threshold

$$E \propto \sqrt{\frac{\phi \Omega \tau}{A \epsilon}}$$

Pixel Solid Angle

577 PMTs



EMI 9116A, 9117A

Rb-bialkali photocathode

Borosilicate emispherical window

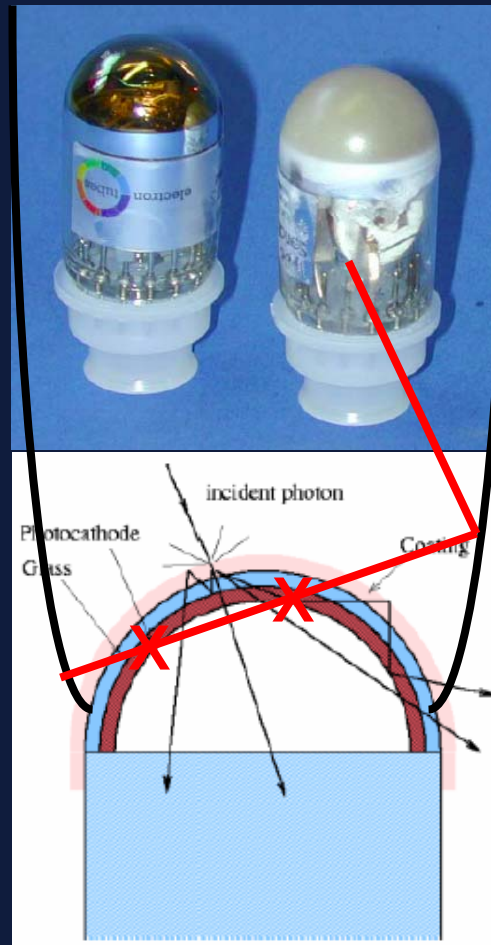
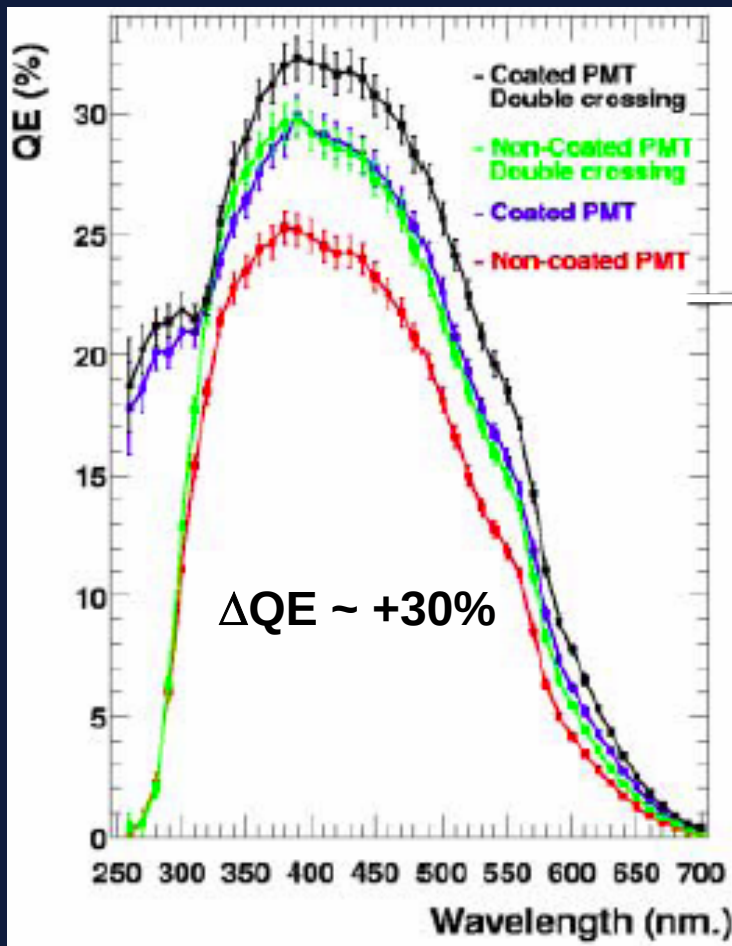


Lowering the Energy Threshold

Energy Threshold

$$E \propto \sqrt{\frac{\phi \Omega \tau}{A \epsilon}}$$

Quantum Efficiency



Lacquer

PTP+B-72

+Dichloromethane

1. Increase γ path length
2. Light collector to cross twice the photocathode

Lowering the Energy Threshold



Lowering the Energy Threshold

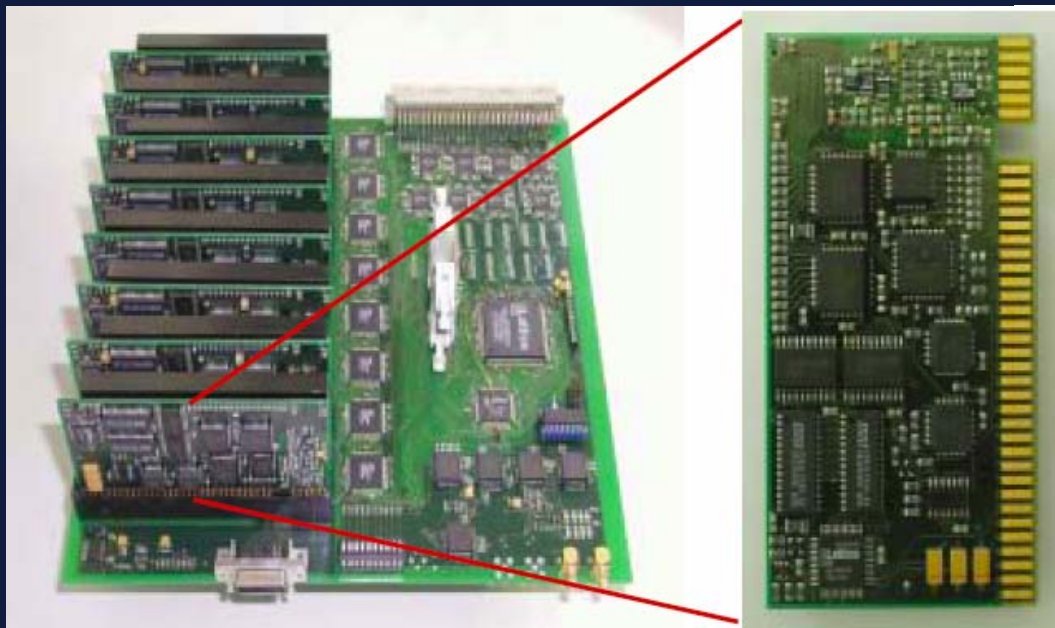
Energy Threshold

$$E \propto \sqrt{\frac{\phi \Omega \tau}{A \epsilon}}$$

Integration time

Flash ADC @ 330 MHz, 8 bit

High/Low gain (x5)



First Calibration Event

QuickTime™ and a TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor are needed to see this picture.

Low Gain
High Gain

Dynamic range: 2000 (high/low gain)

DAQ: Continuous ~20 Mbytes/sec → ~1% deadtime @ 1 kHz

Internal FIFO for 150 000 events (>20 kHz) → Gamma Ray Bursts

The Trigger Architecture

Discriminators

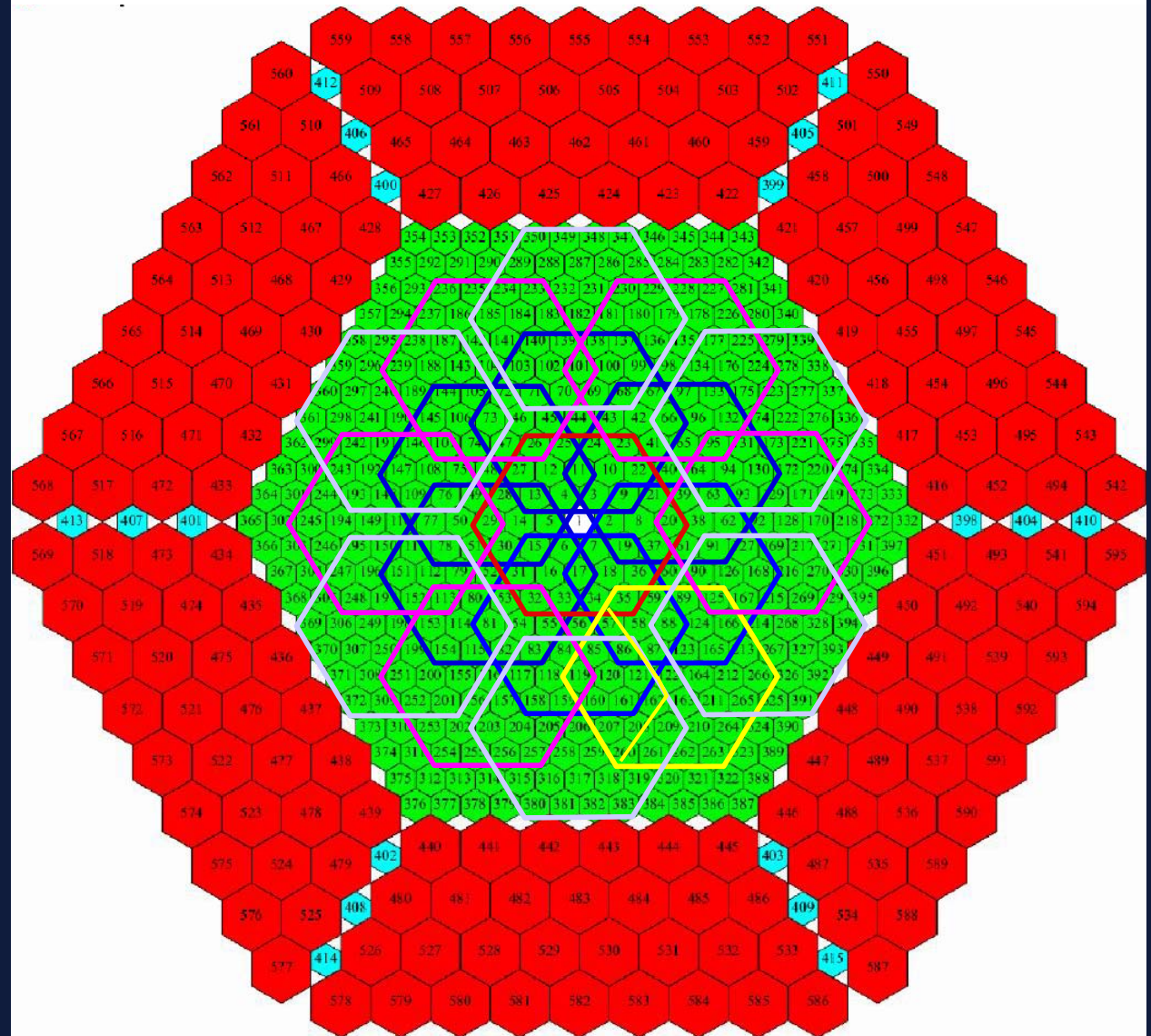
of photoelectrons

Level 1

tight time coincidence

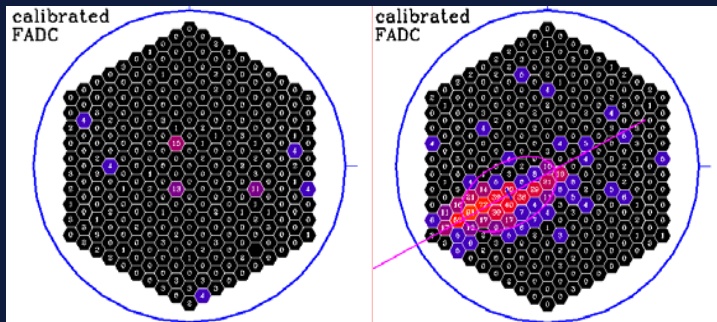
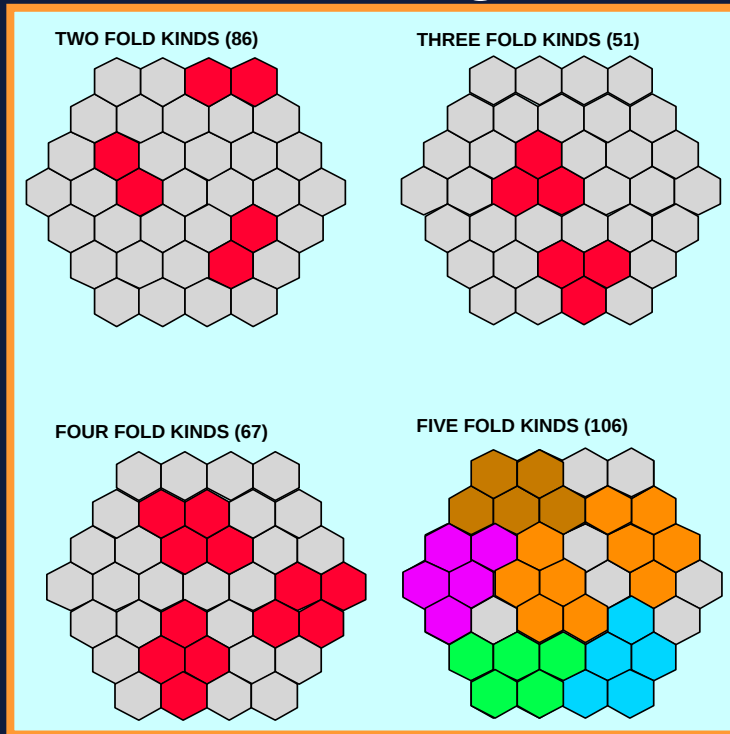
Level 2

advanced pattern
recognition

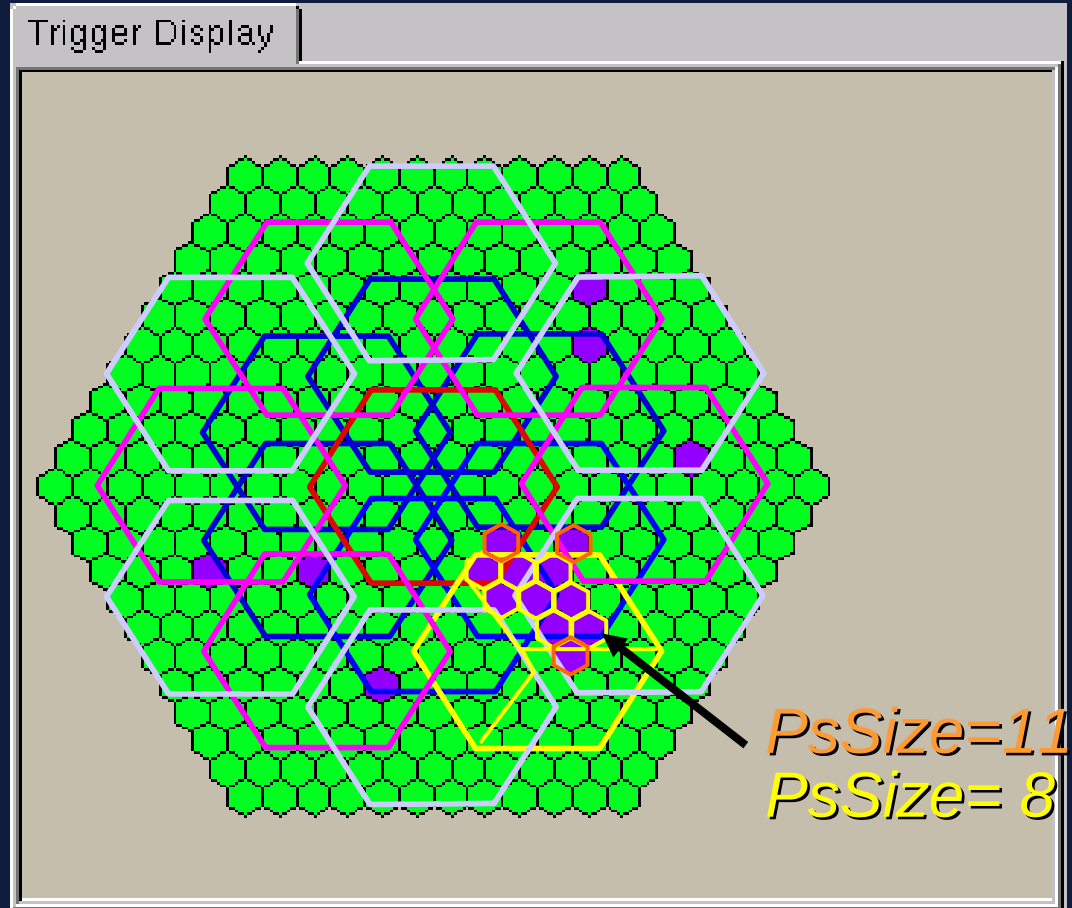


The Trigger Selection

Level 1 Logic



Level 2 Logic

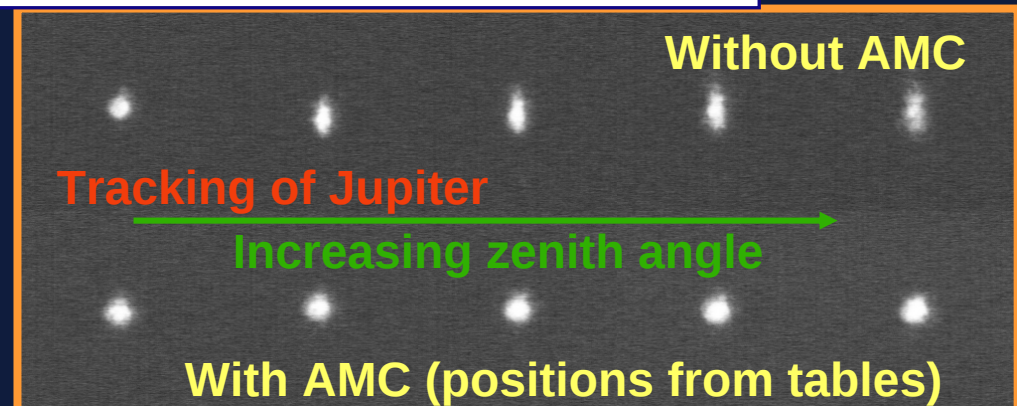
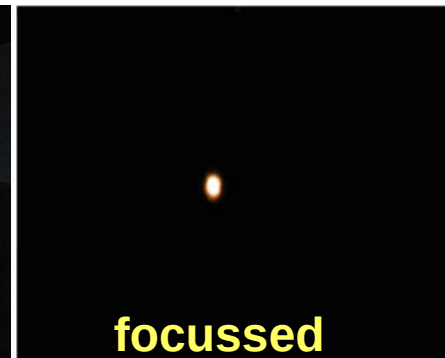
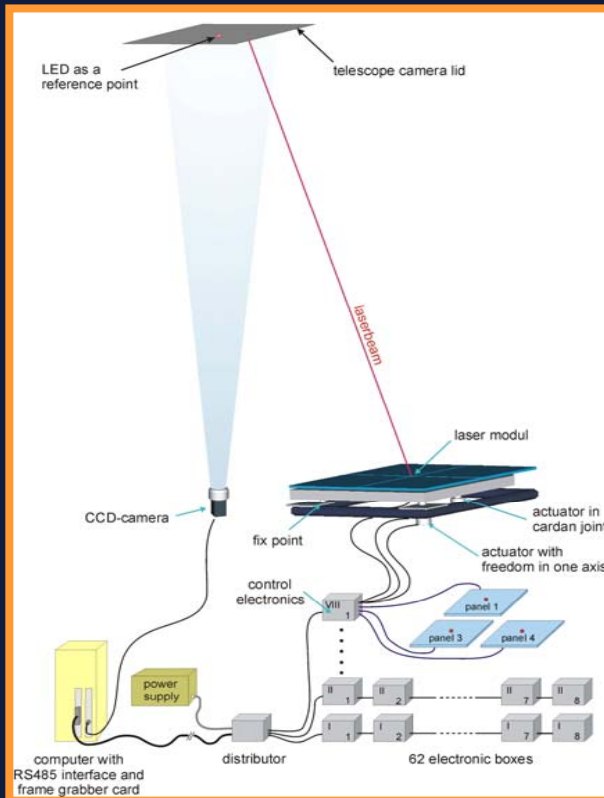


Perform a pattern recognition and apply topological cuts.

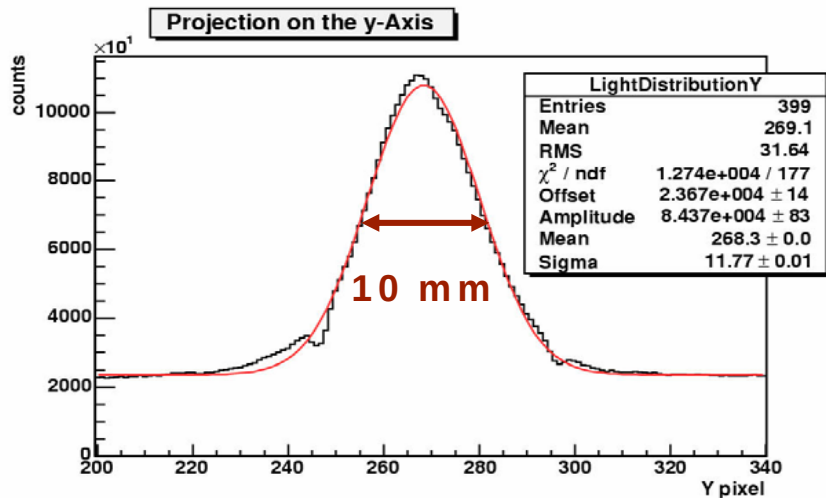
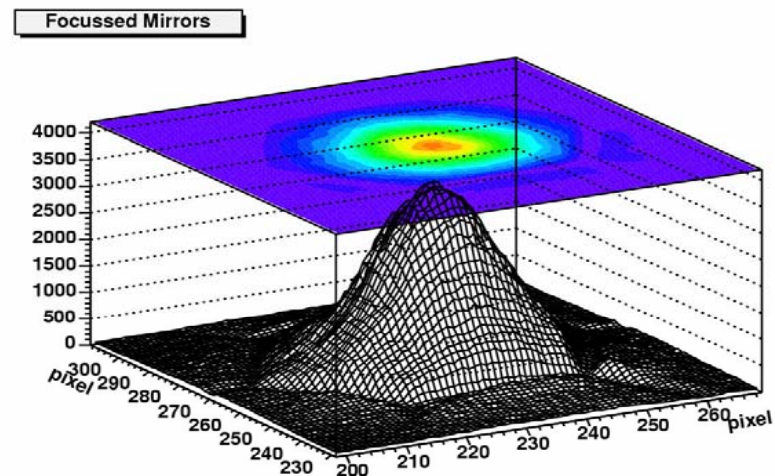
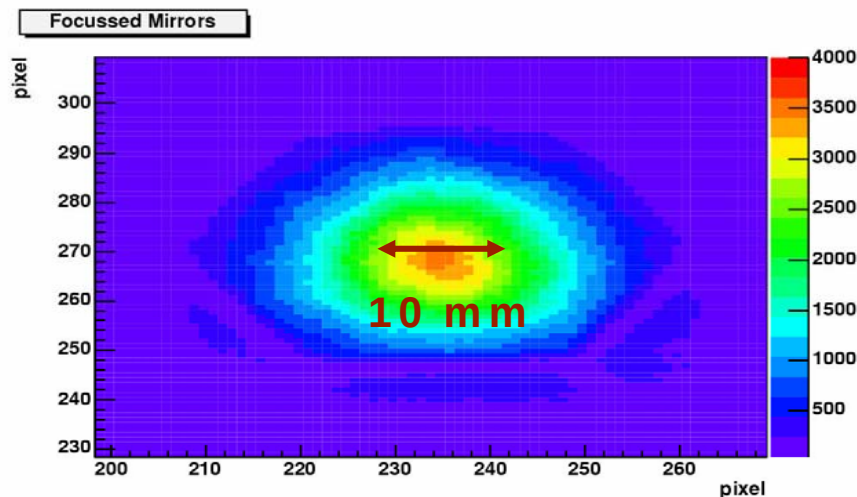
The cluster size can be computed at trigger level - "pseudosize".

Active Mirror Control

- A) Optimize focus on lamp (920 m)
- B) Memorize panel & laser positions → PSF



Point Spread Function



- Lightspot recorded with CCD camera
- 80 % within 10 mm = 1 / 3 pixel
- Limited by CCD camera

Camera Calibration

Strong LED pulser with avalanche transistors and 3 different colors
Light pulse amplitudes up to 2000 PhE/pixel $\sim 3\text{-}4$ ns

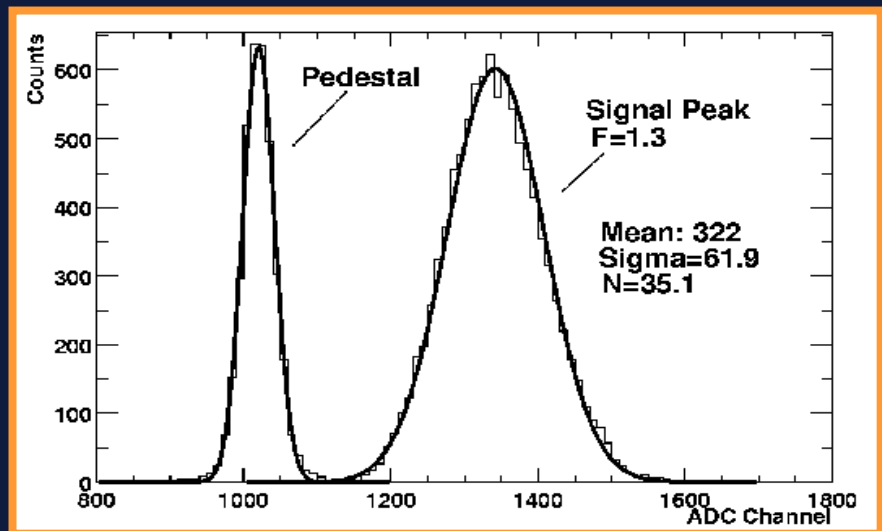
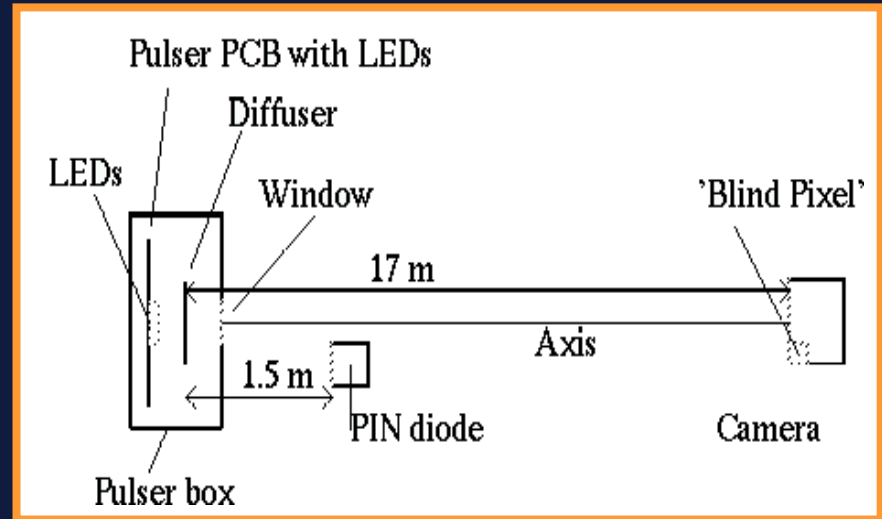
Pulser flux measurement by

PMT

PIN diode

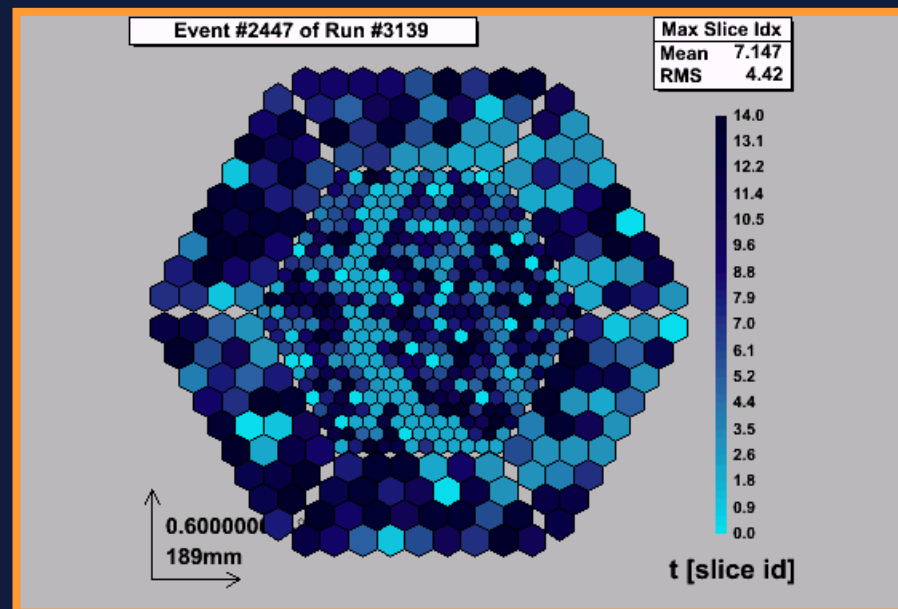
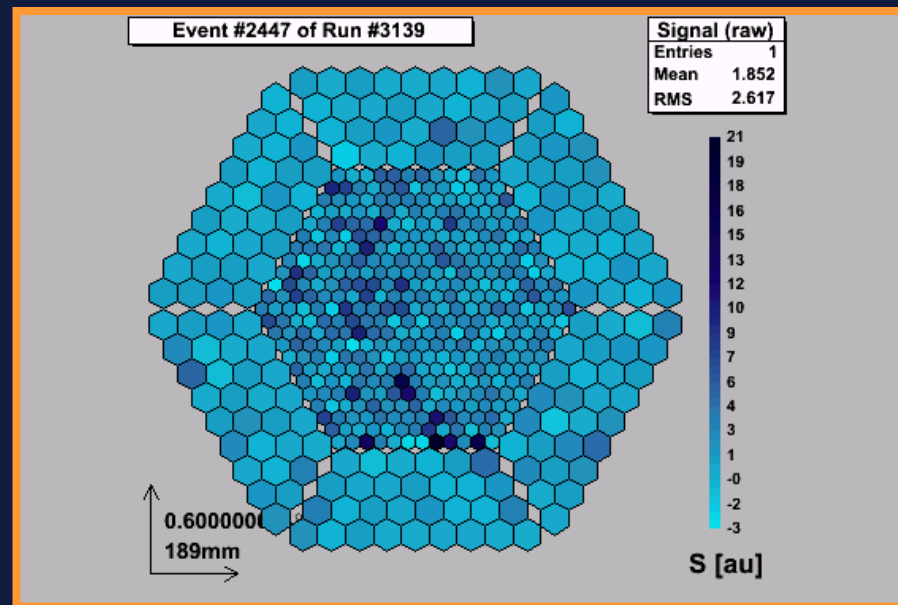
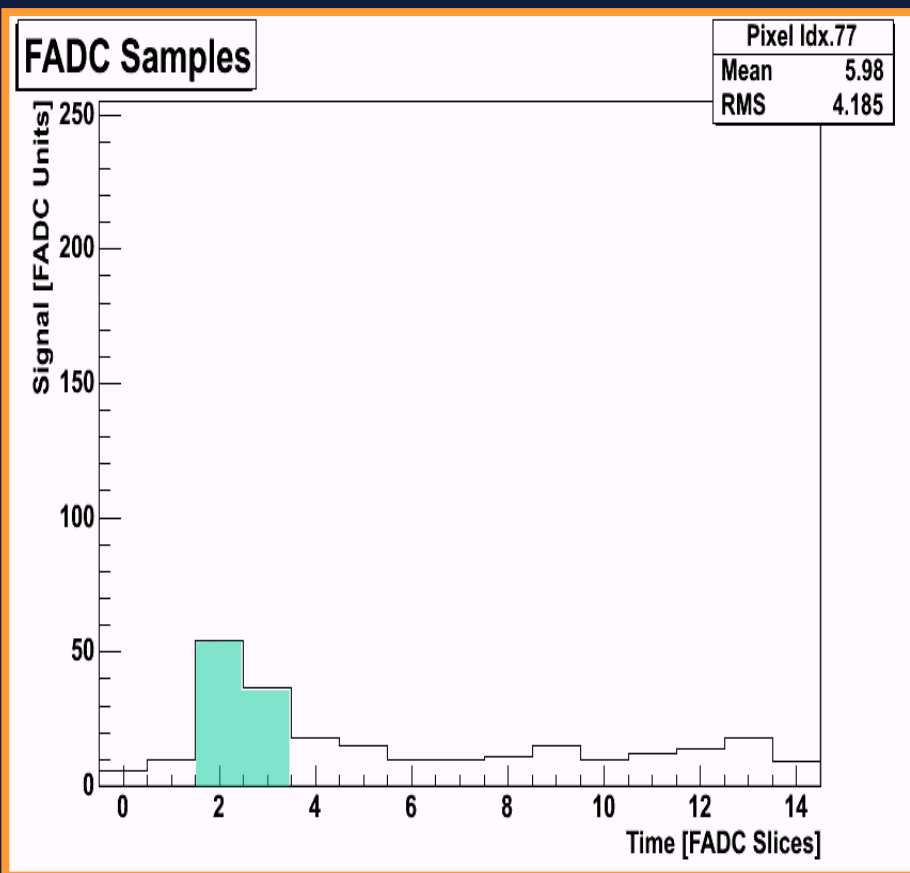
Excess noise method

Calibration by muon rings



Muon rings

Add time information to tag
muons in events
Help in gamma/hadron
separation



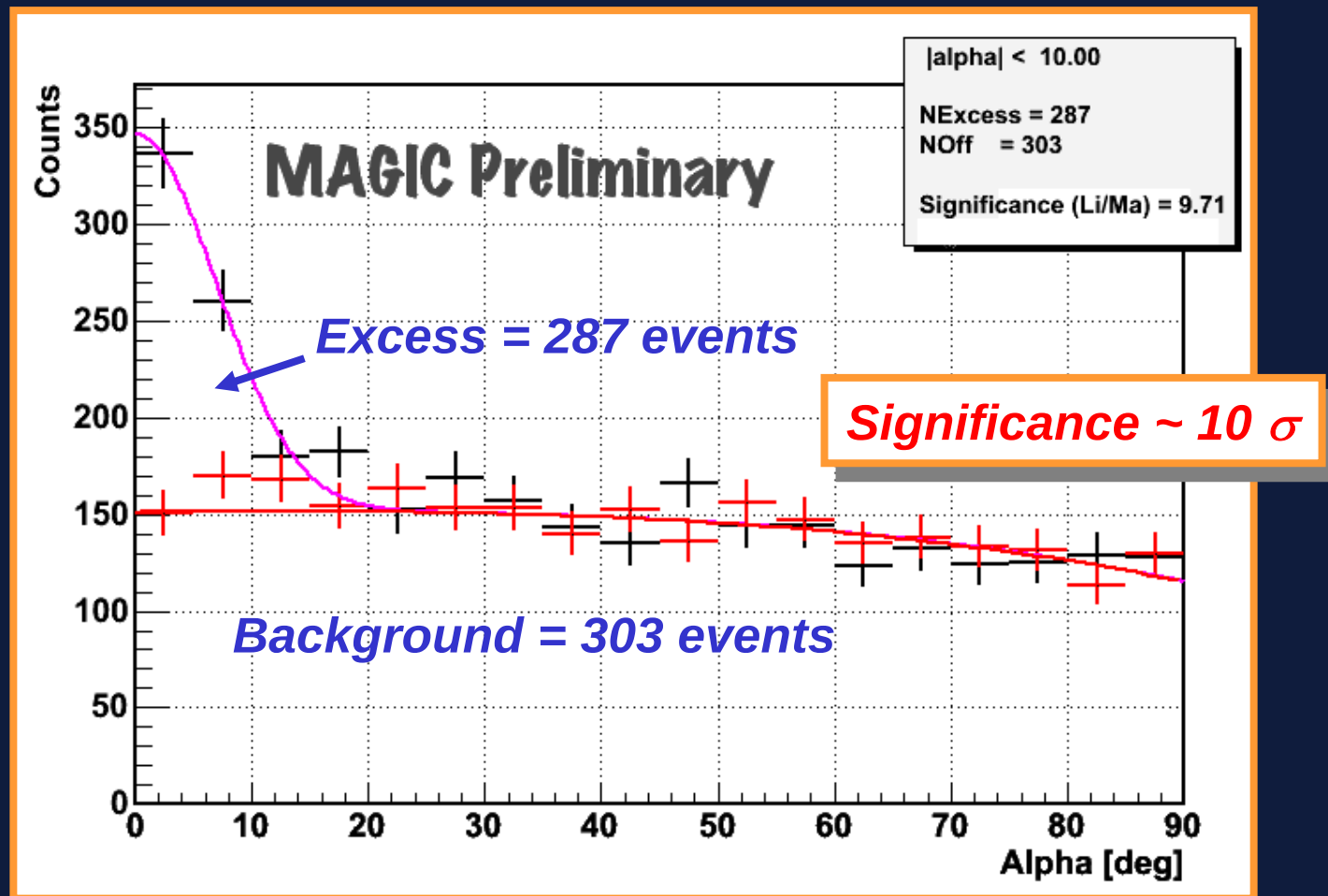
Preliminary results: Crab

Crab nebula (pulsar wind)

Steady Gamma emission (standard candle): useful for calibration

Very first look: ~50 minutes observation time → **detection !**

~ **8.0 events/minute** after simple cuts

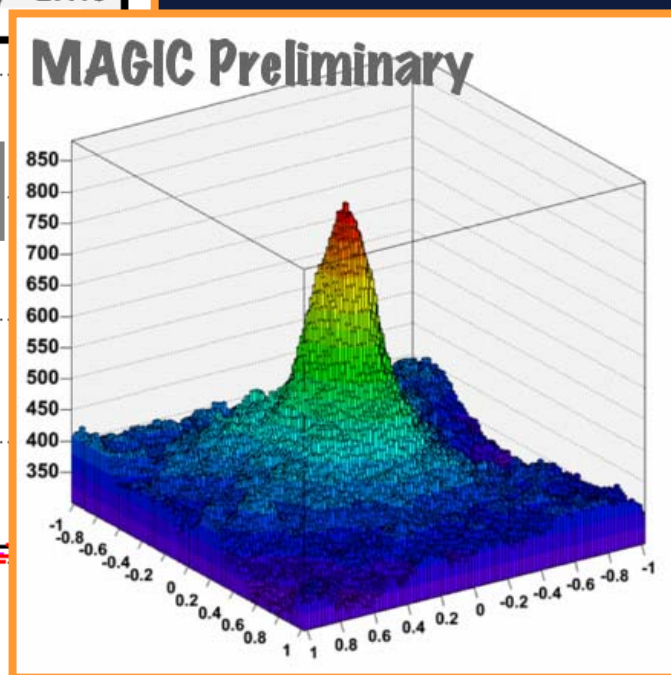
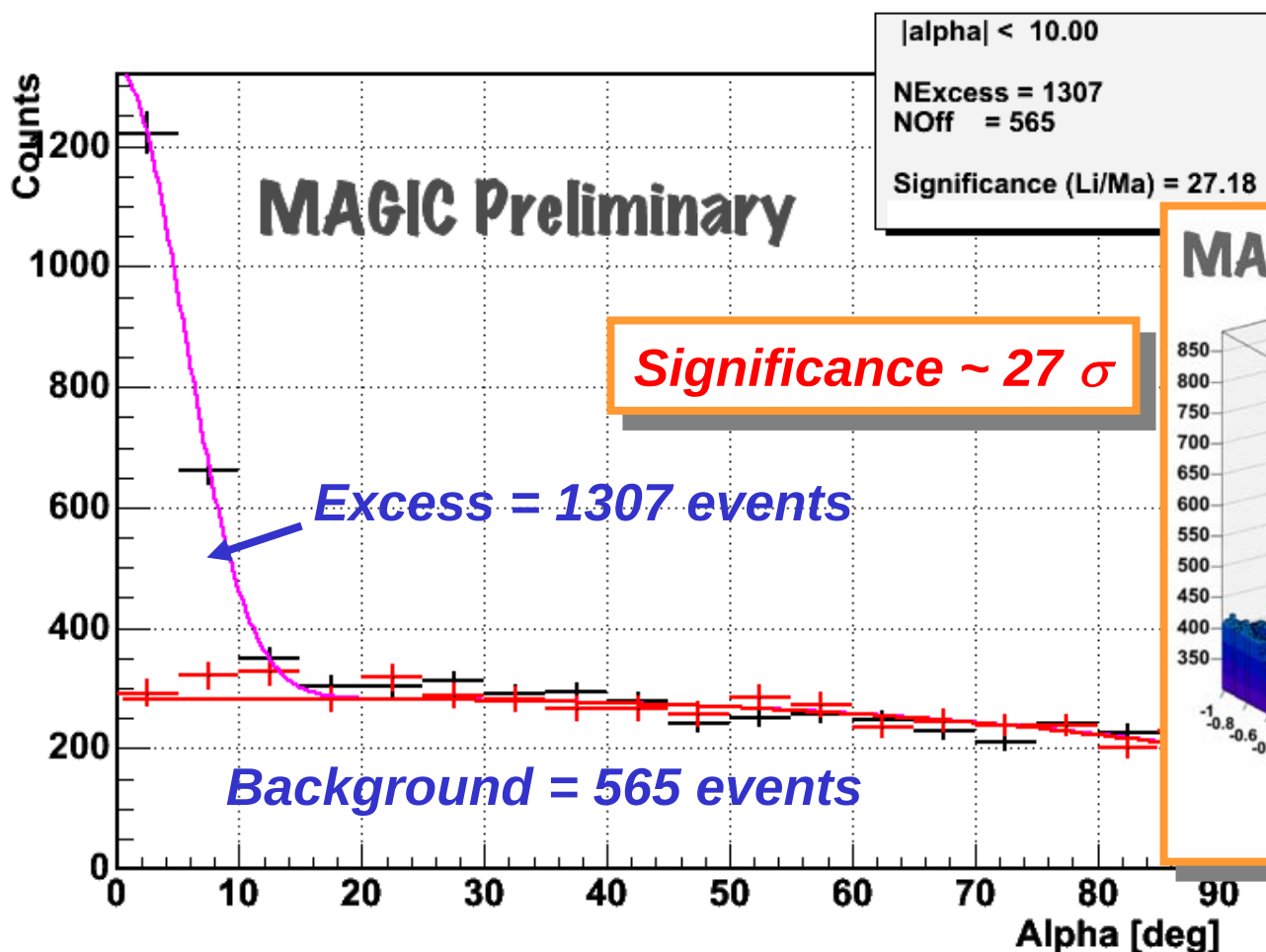


Preliminary results: Mrk 421

Mrk 421 (BL Lac, $z=0.031$) was flaring in February

Observation time ~ 100 minutes

27 sigma significance after simple cuts



Future Prospects and Developments

Build a second telescope

⇒ Same mechanical structure

⇒ Test bench for technical developments



*Design Study for
a 34m telescope
astro-ph/0403180*



REFERENCES

- *High energy astrophysics (Longair)*

Cosmic Ray and Particle Physics (Gaisser)

Very high energy gamma ray astronomy (Weekes)

<http://www.pi.infn.it/magic>

alessio.piccioli@pi.infn.it