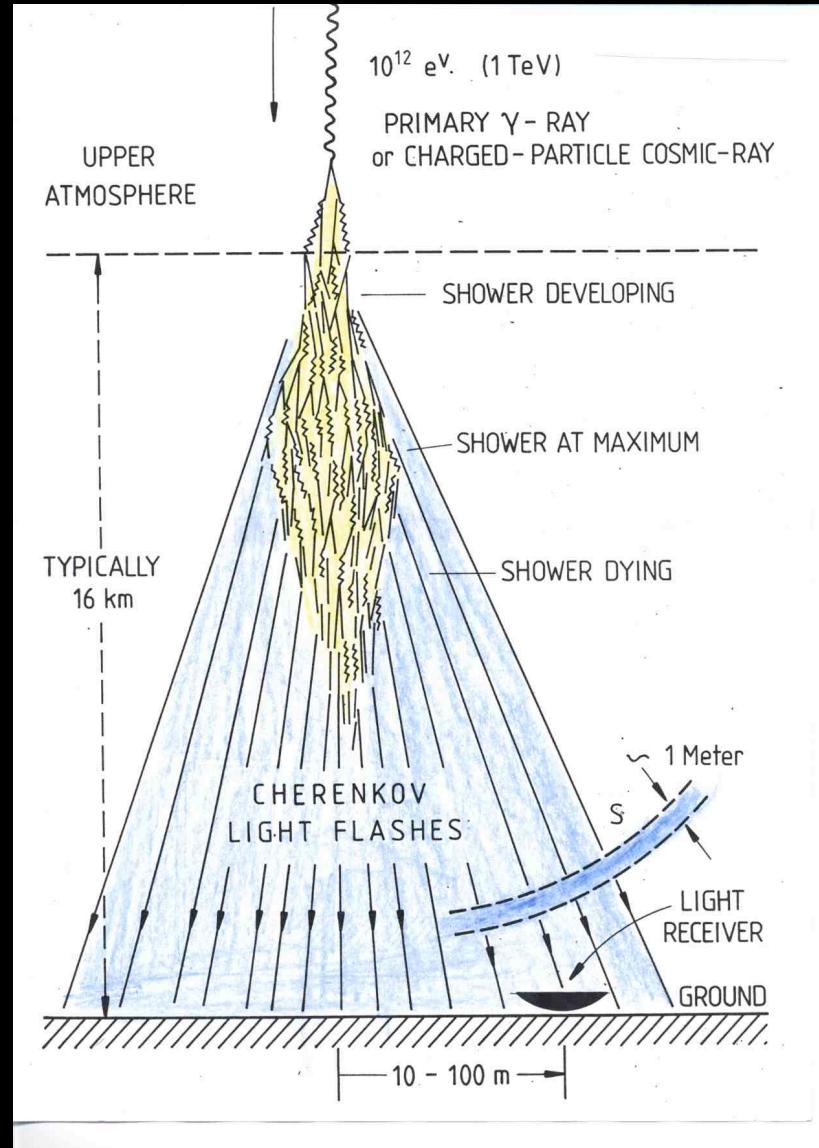


# The New Generation of Imaging Air Cherenkov Gamma-Ray Telescopes

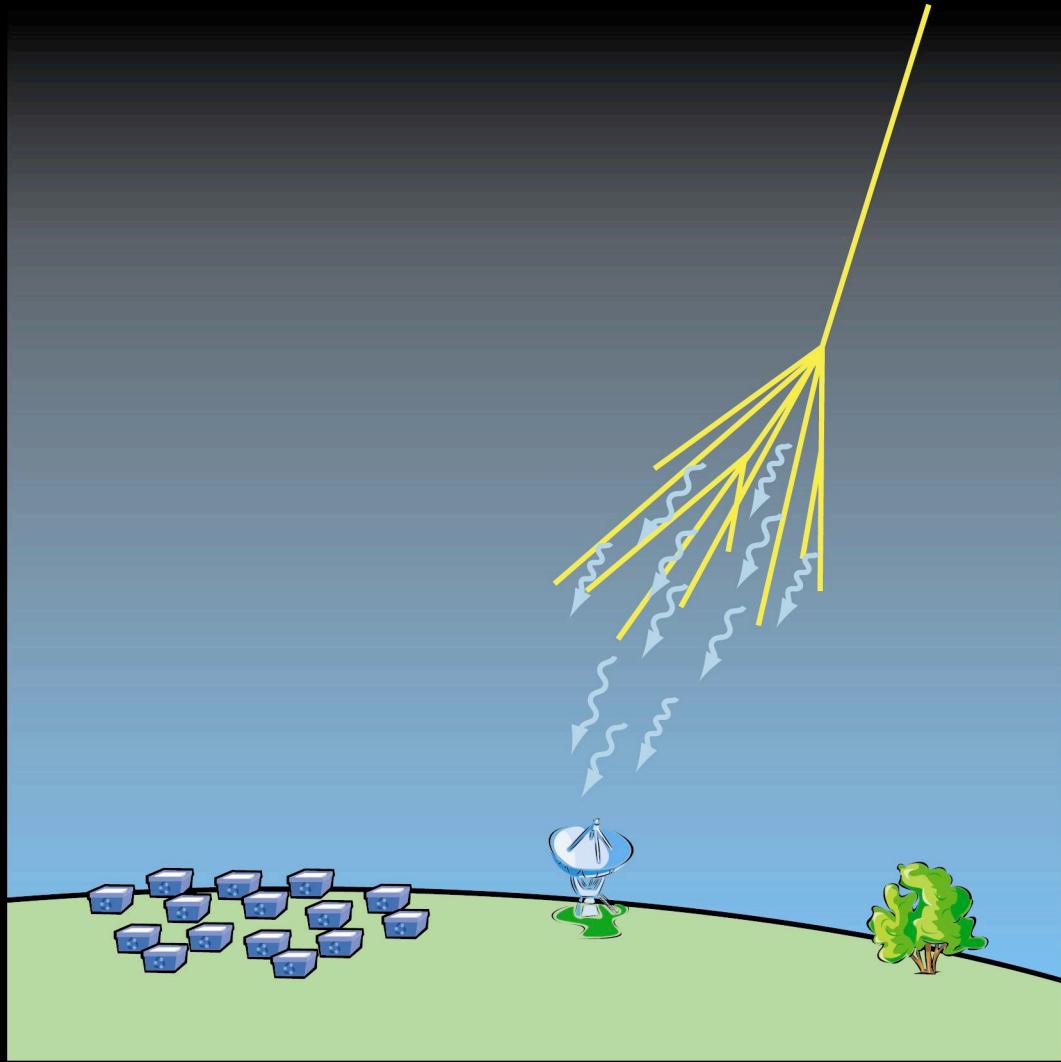
Simon Swordy - U. Chicago ([s-swordy@uchicago.edu](mailto:s-swordy@uchicago.edu))

Physics Principles Behind  
Air-Cherenkov Astronomy  
Identified in 1950s.....

Light Flashes are Briefly  
Brighter than Fluctuations  
in Night Sky



# IACT Technique



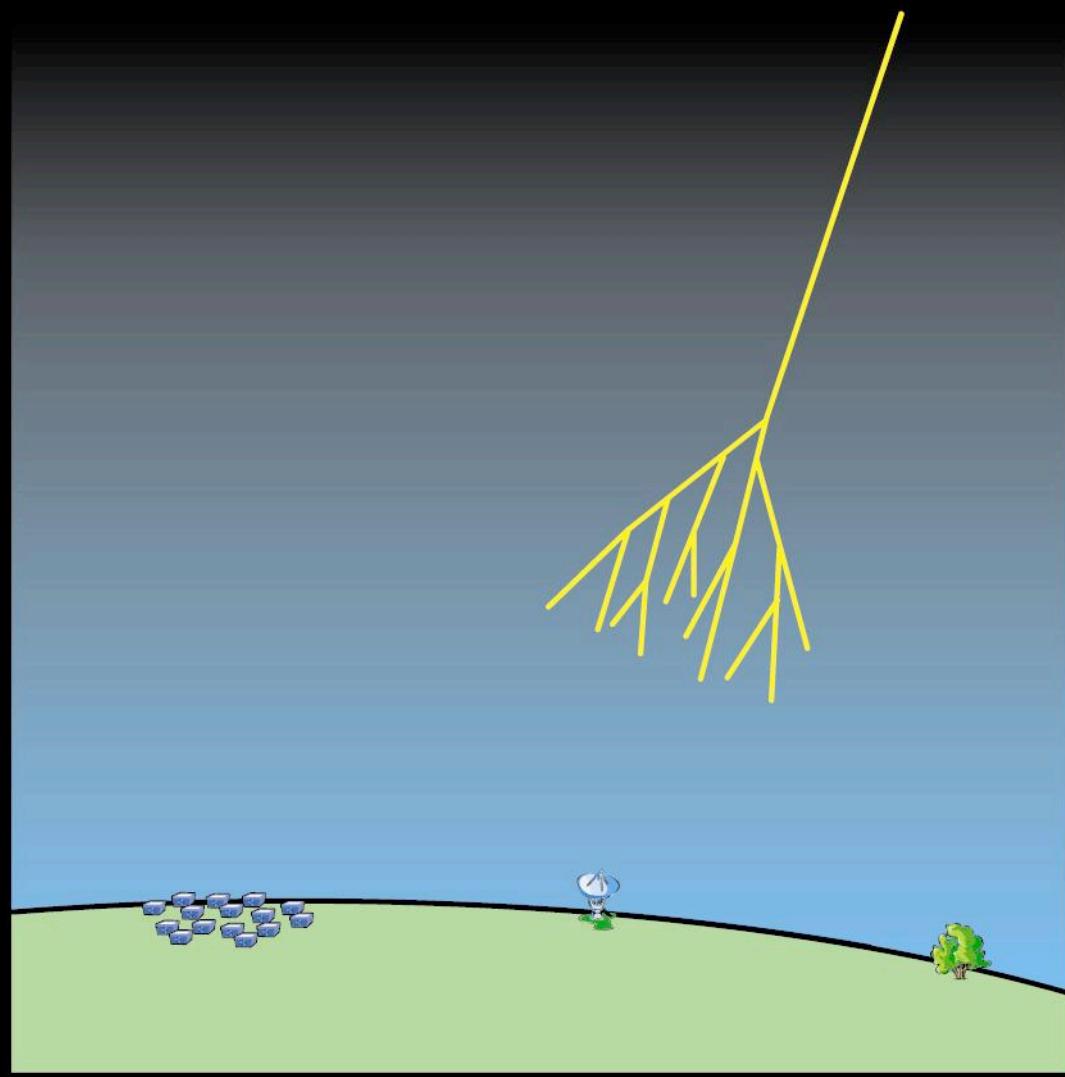
As with Air Shower Arrays:  
Atmosphere = Calorimeter

Traditional Air Shower Array  
Samples shower at end  
of development

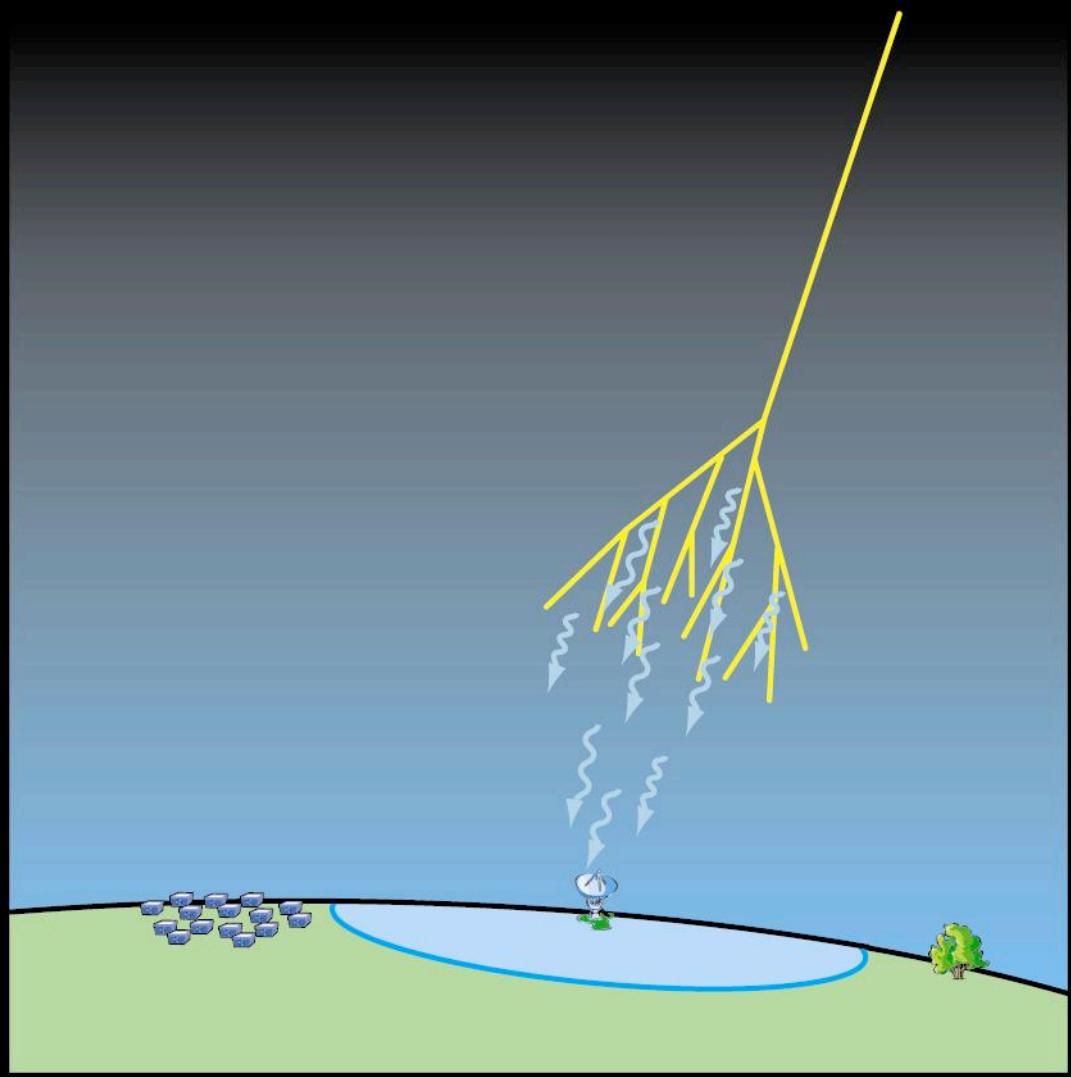
Atmospheric Cerenkov Tel.  
Samples Cerenkov Light  
throughout shower  
development

- Primary Energy
- Arrival Direction
- Composition

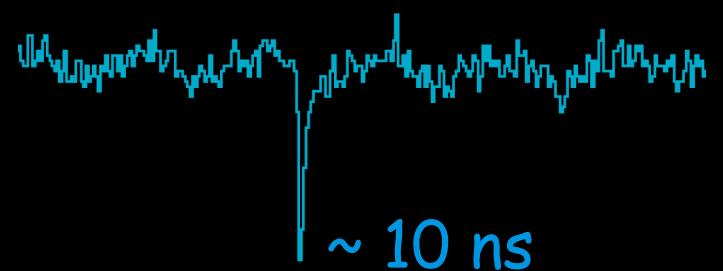
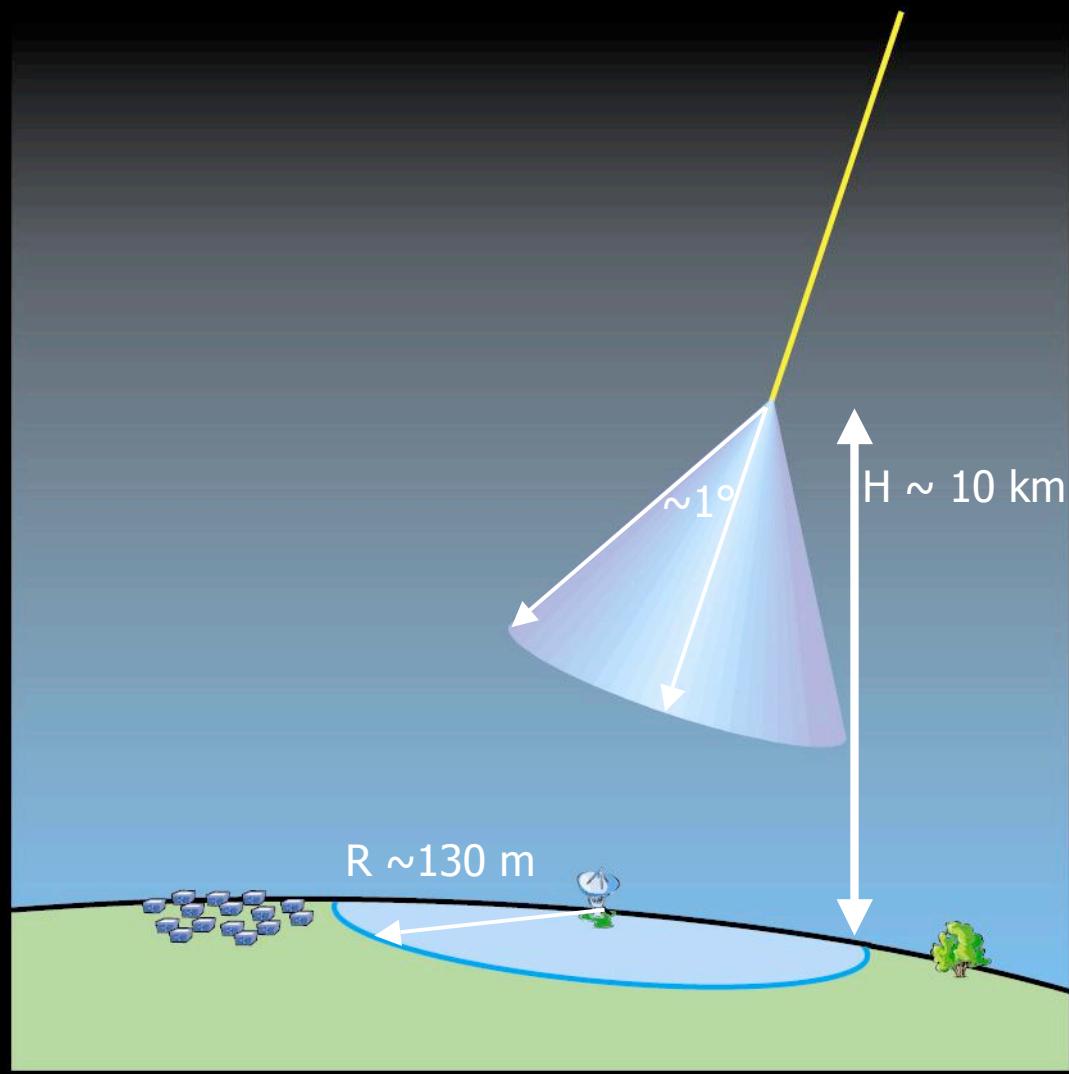
# Atmospheric Cerenkov Basics



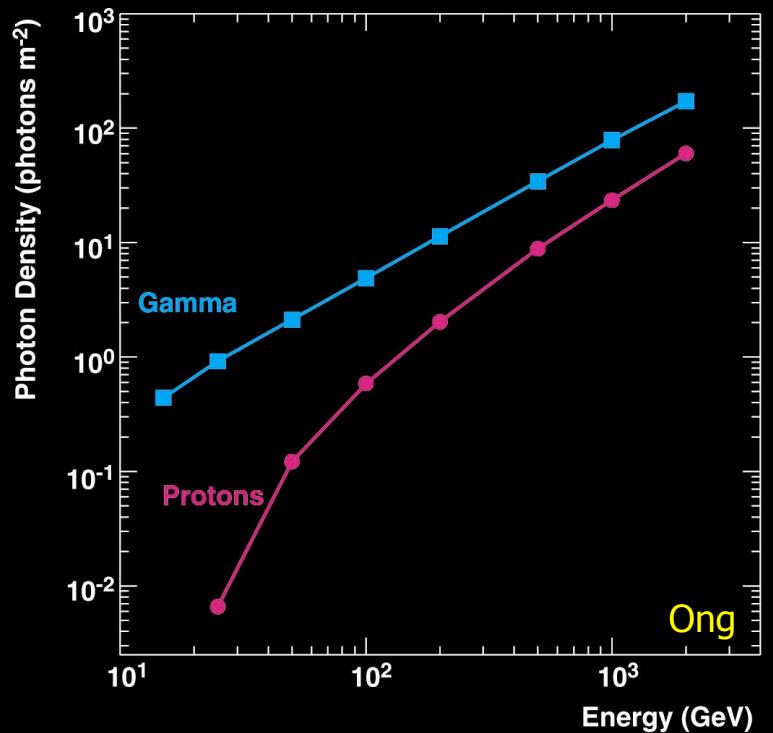
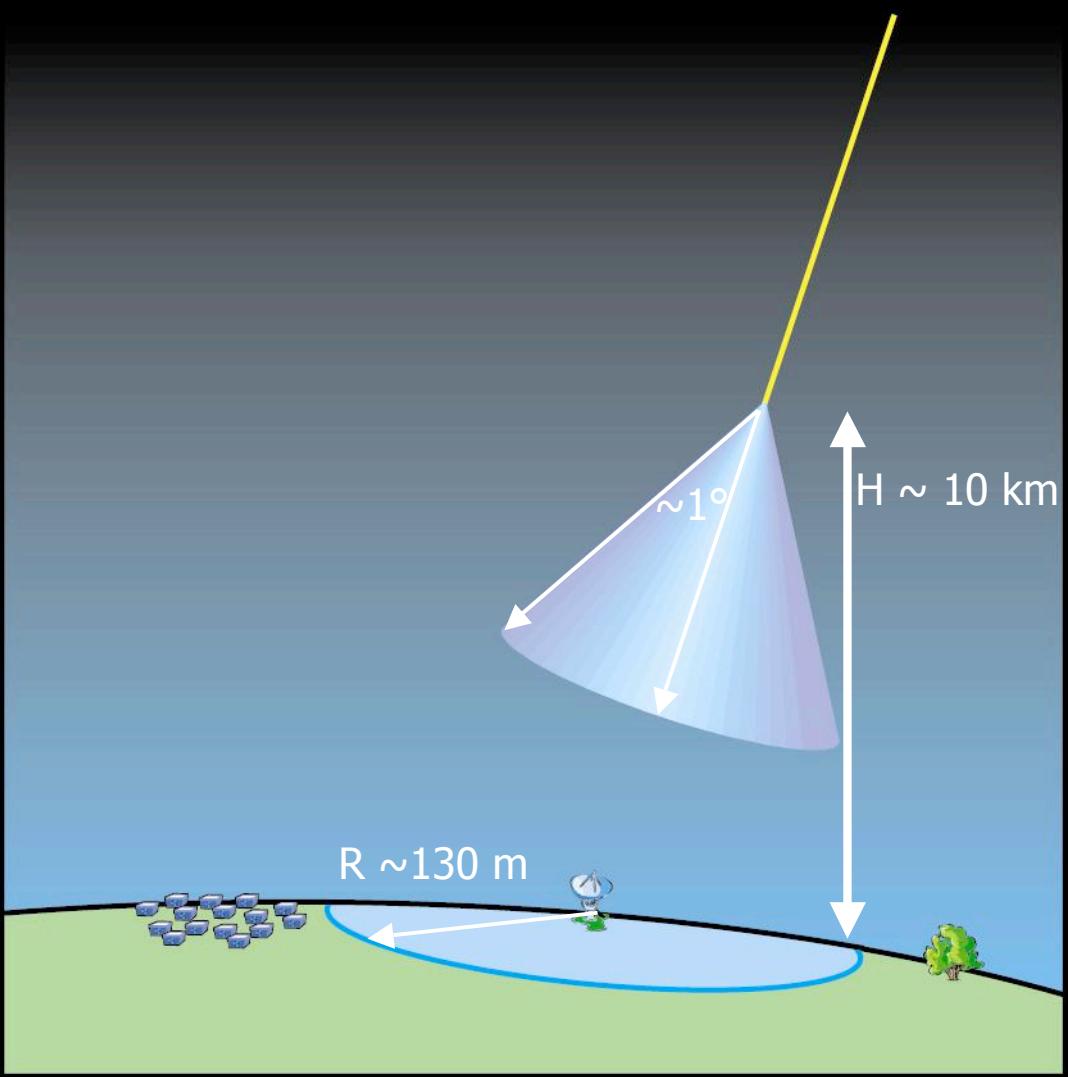
# Atmospheric Cerenkov Basics



# Atmospheric Cerenkov Basics



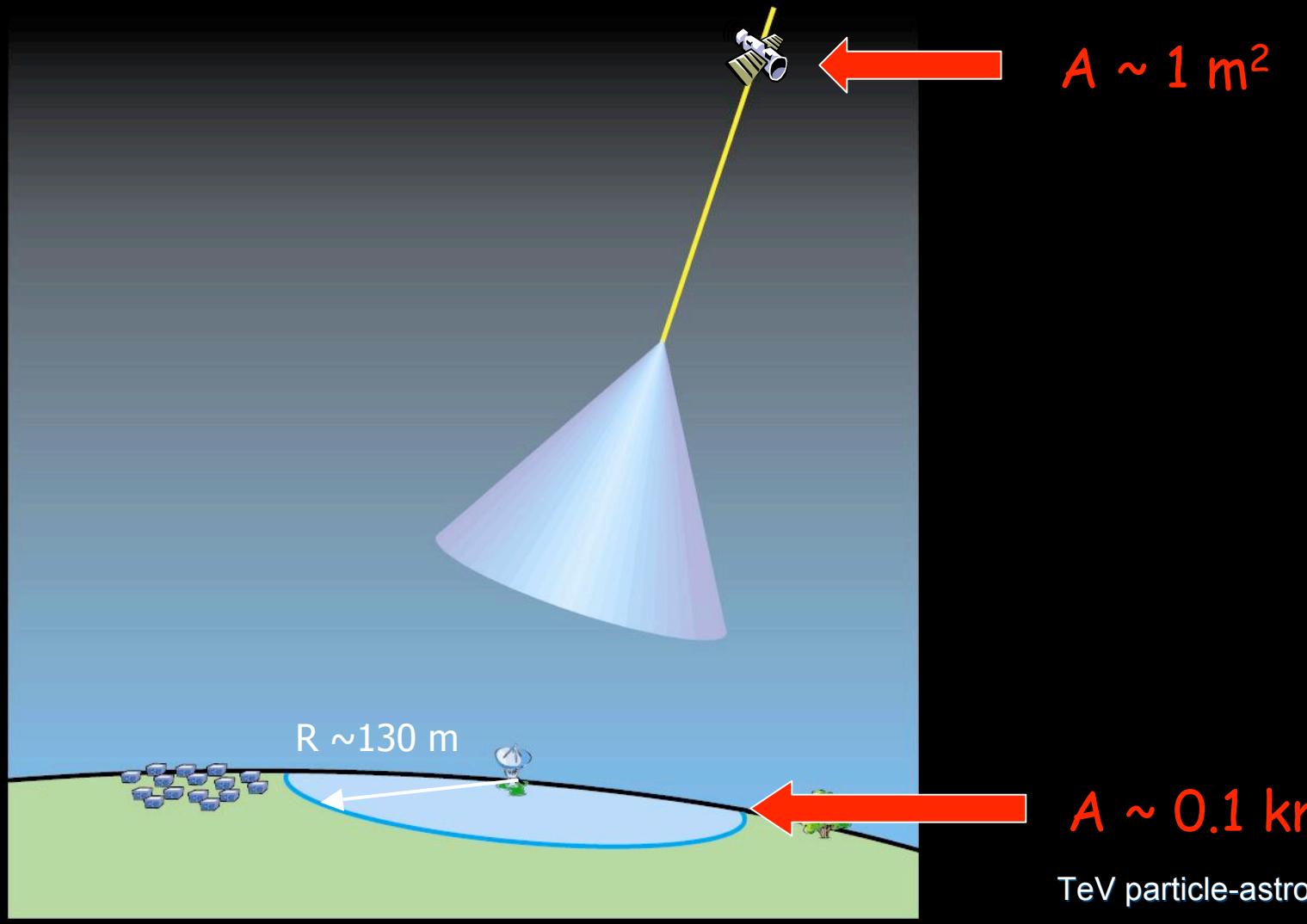
# Atmospheric Cerenkov Basics



1 TeV:  
 $\sim 100 \text{ ph/m}^2$   
300 - 600 nm

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# Effective Area



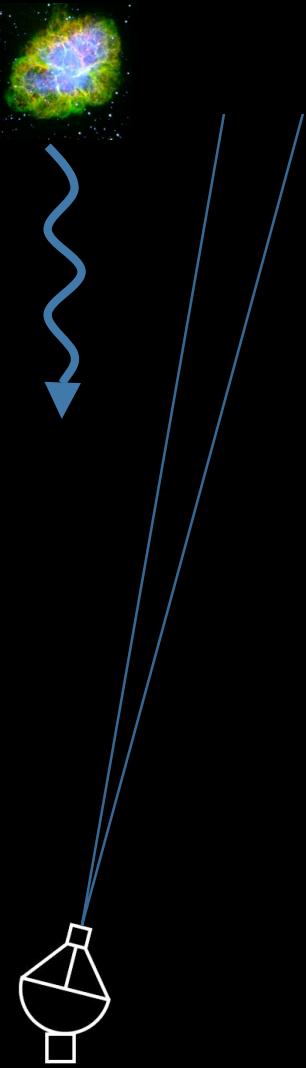
# Atmospheric Cerenkov Technique

"On-Source"

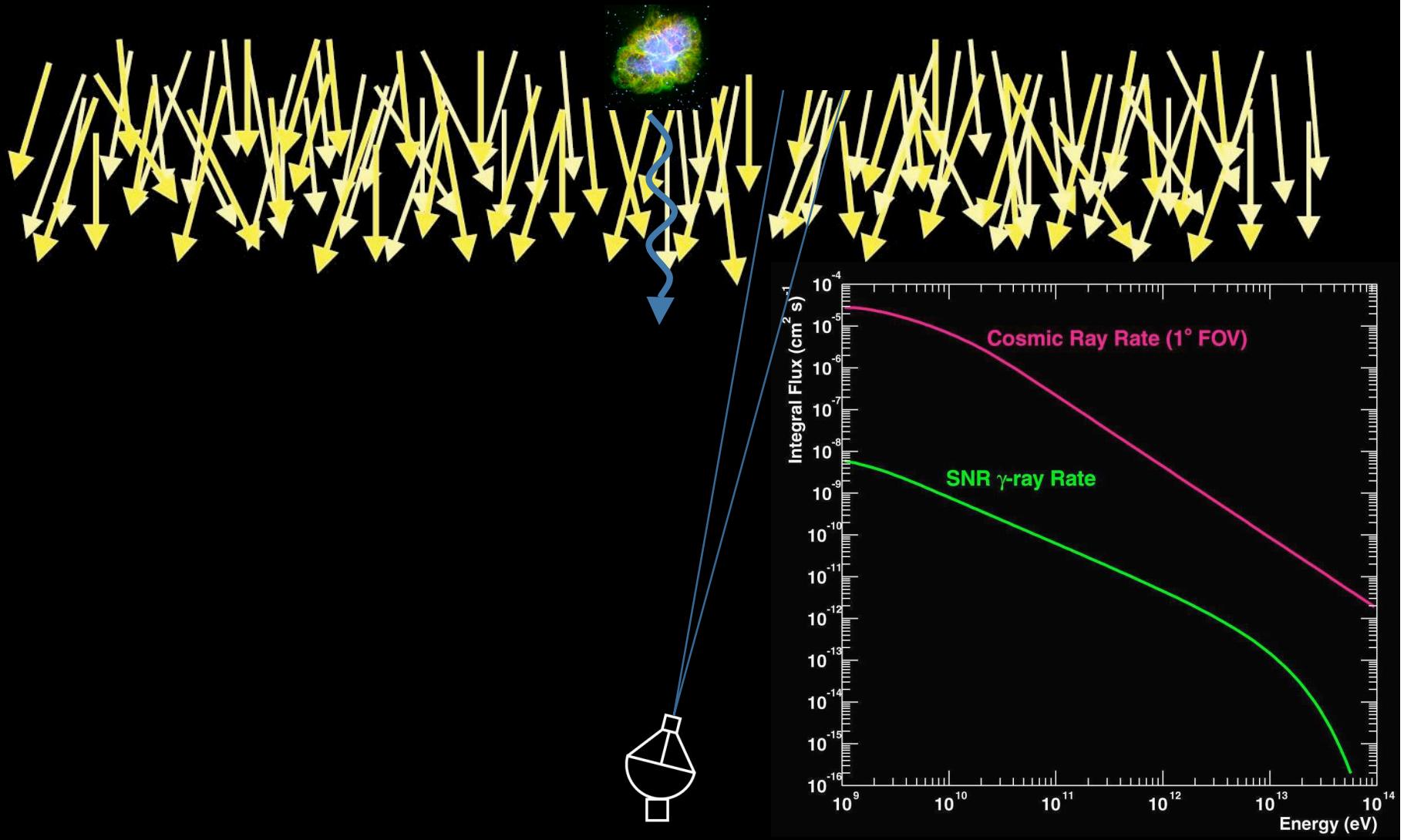


# Atmospheric Cerenkov Technique

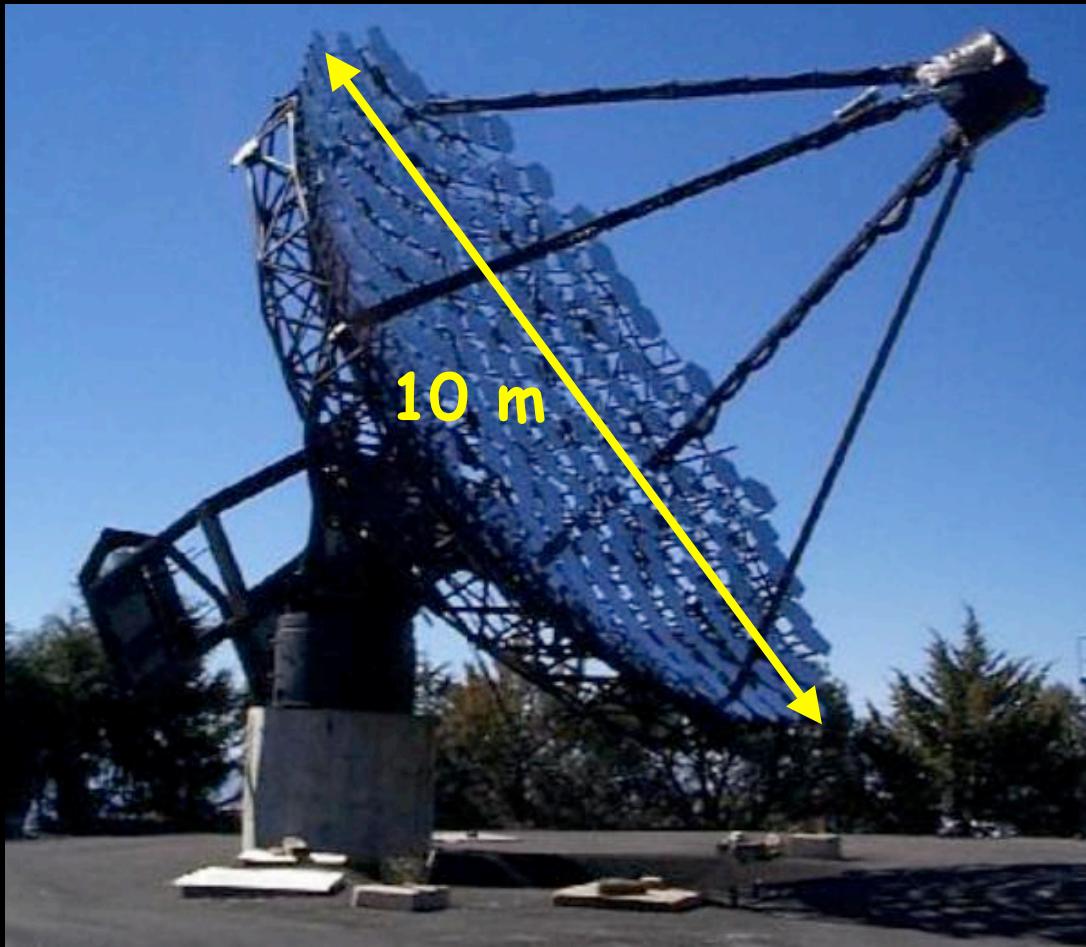
"Off-Source"



# Atmospheric Cerenkov Technique

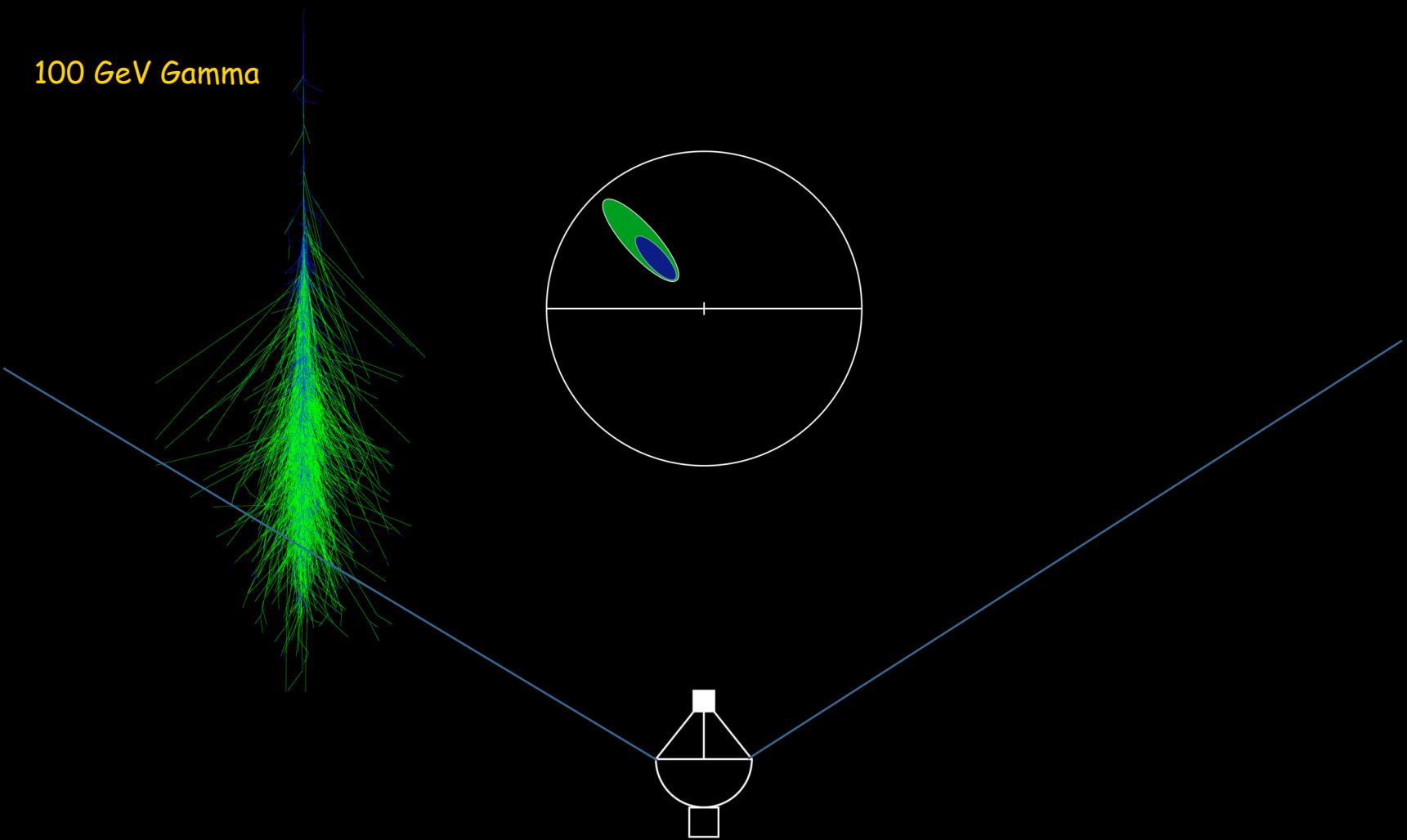


# Cerenkov Imaging - Whipple



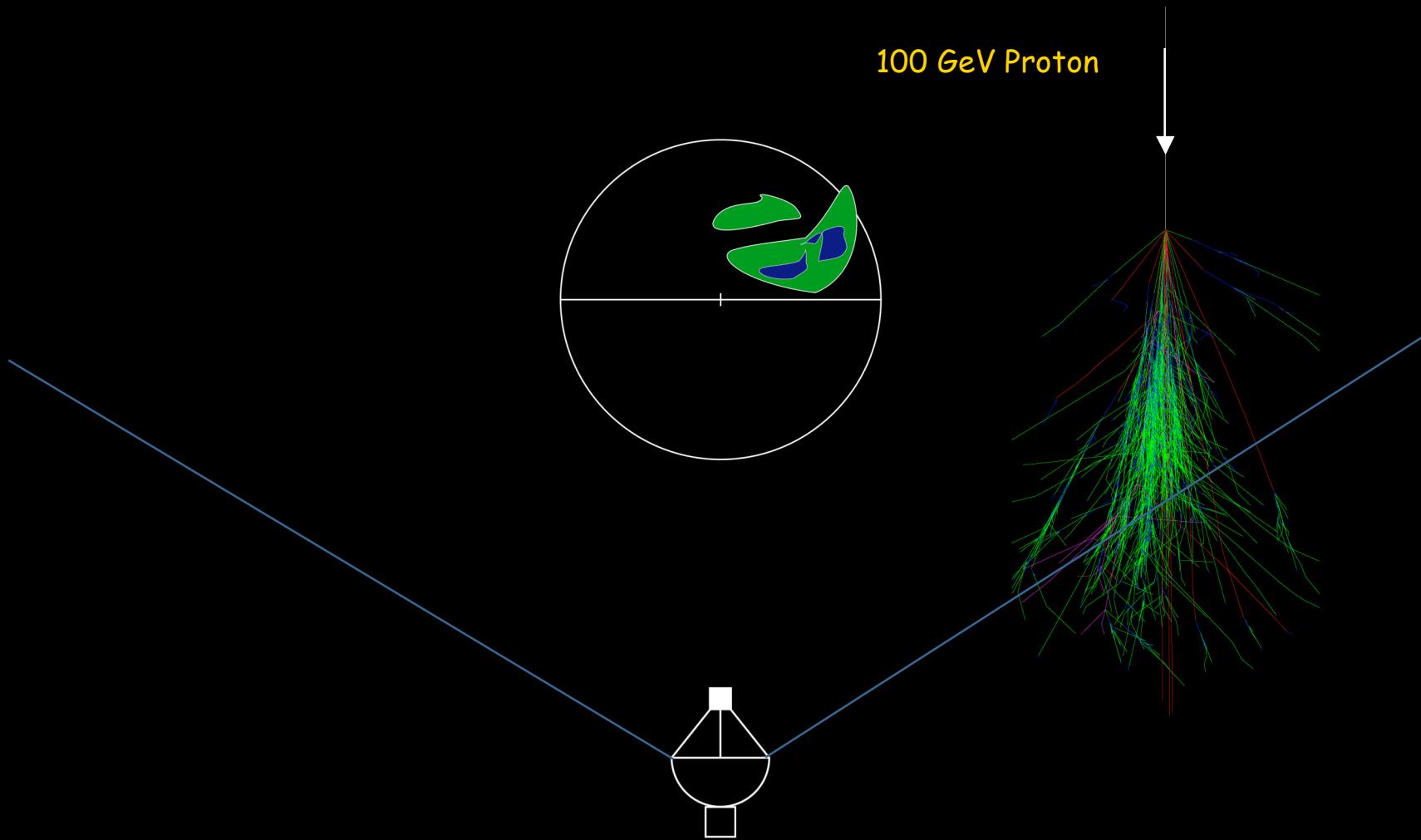
TeV particle-astro FNAL 2005

# Cerenkov Imaging



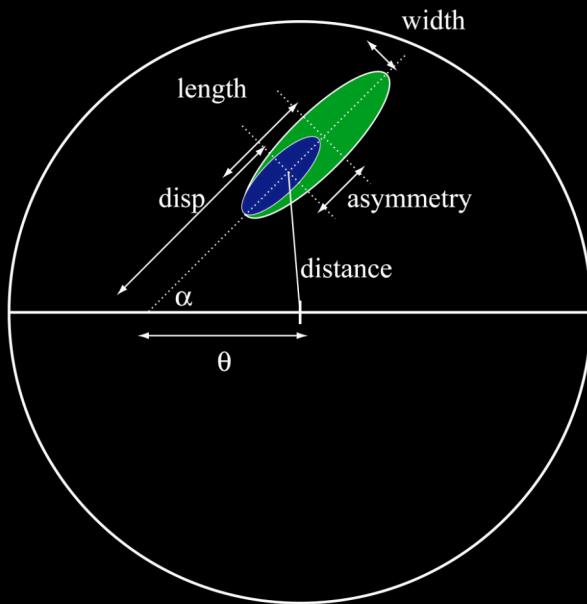
TeV particle-astro FNAL 2005

# Cerenkov Imaging

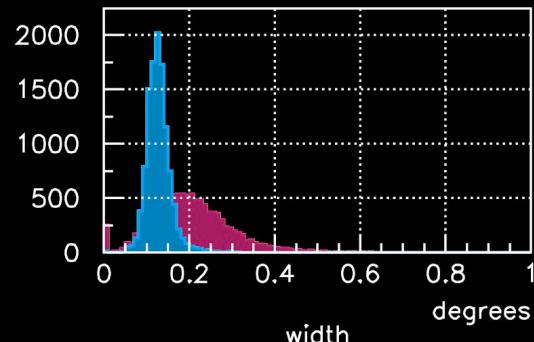
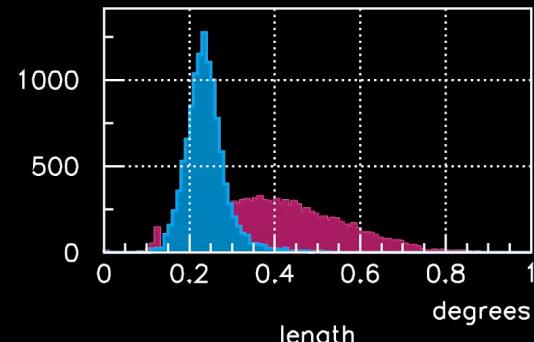


TeV particle-astro FNAL 2005

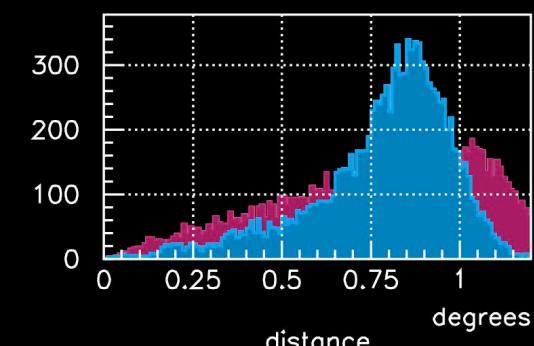
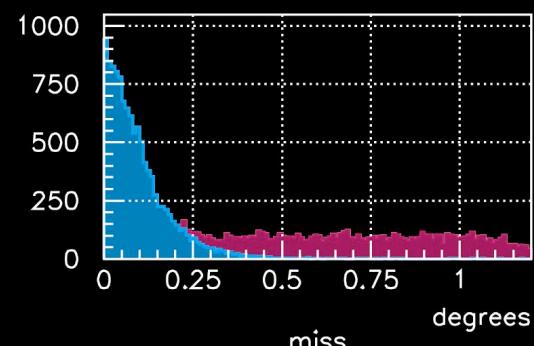
# Hillas Parameters



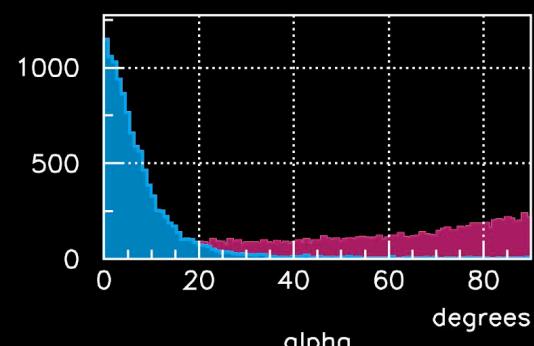
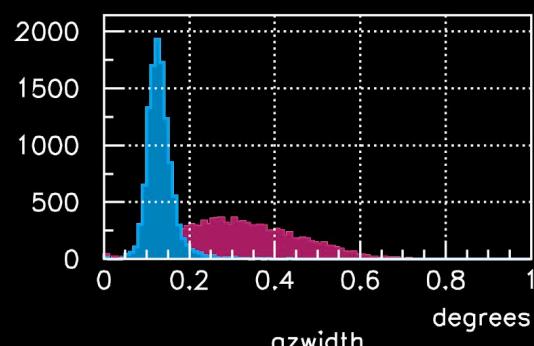
# Hillas Parameter Distributions



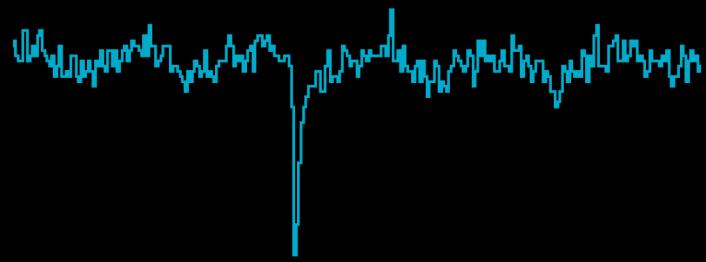
>99.7 % Hadron Reject.



50% Gamma Retention

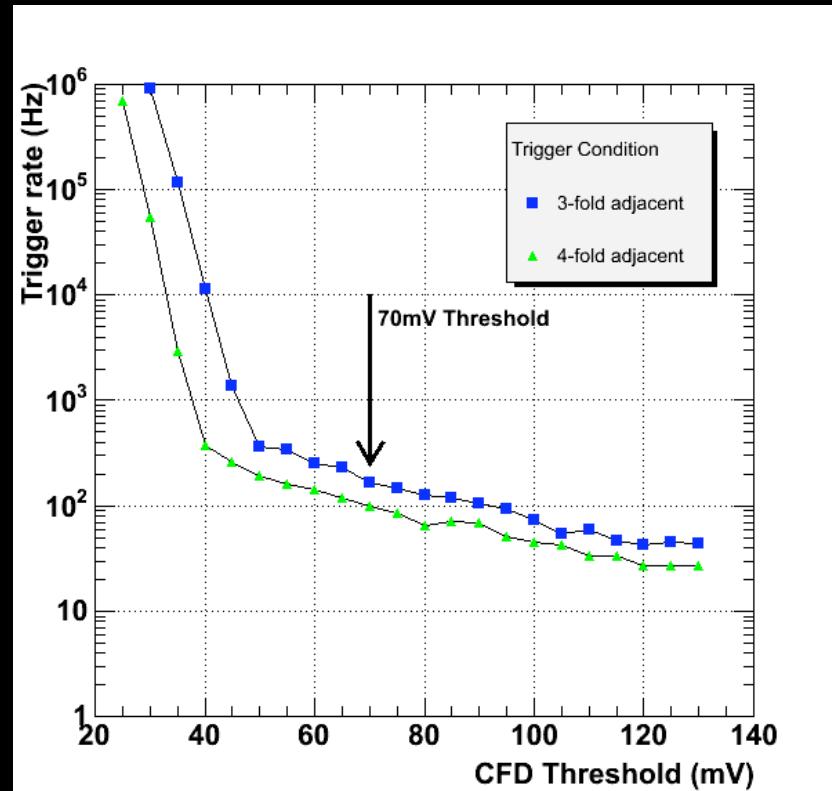


# Energy Thresholds



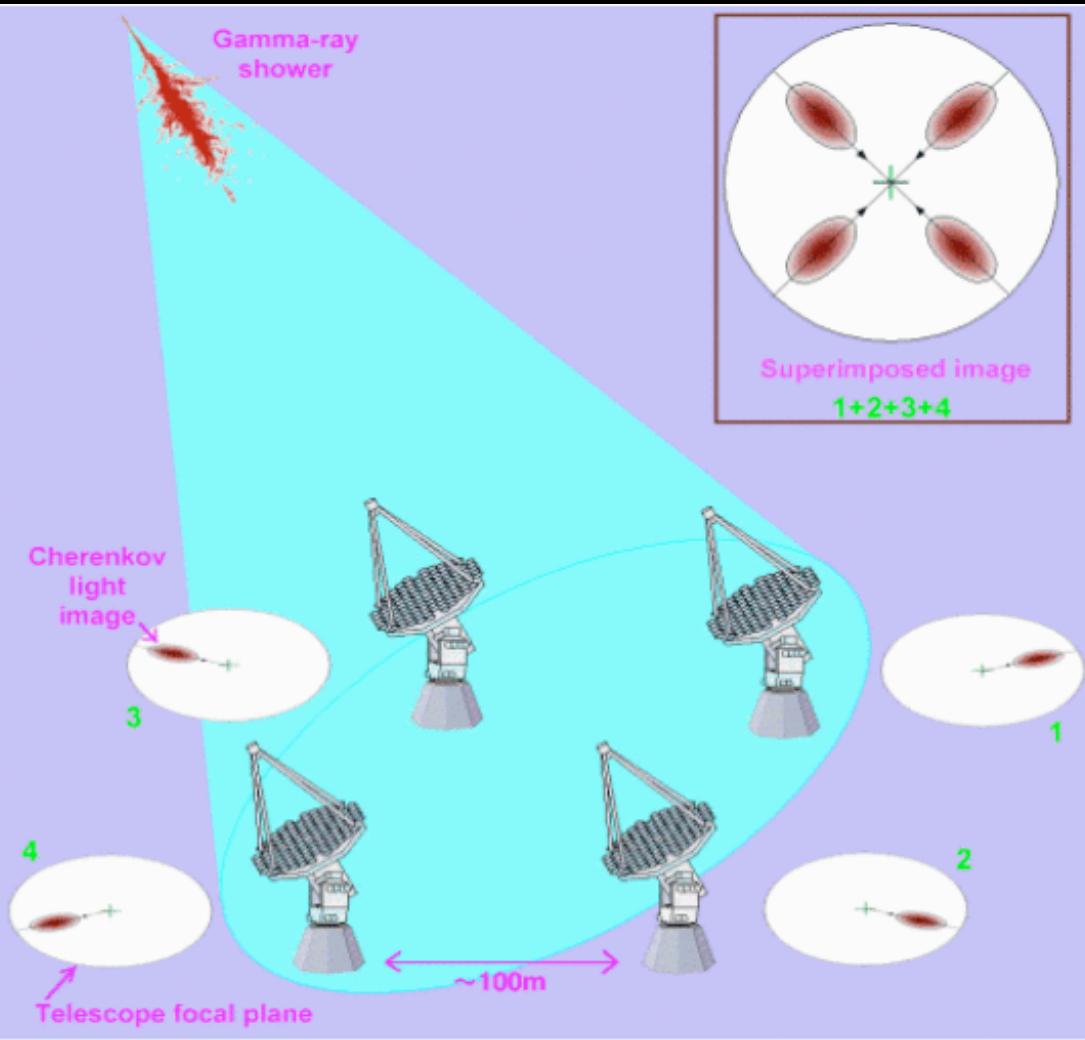
$S/B \propto \sqrt{ \text{Mirror Area} }$

$S/B \propto 1/\sqrt{ \text{Integration Time} }$



Thresholds  $\sim 50\text{-}150 \text{ GeV}$ , for  $\sim 12\text{m}$  dish and 20ns

# Array Imaging



Multiple Telescopes:  
improve angular resolution  
improve energy resolution  
reduce background  
eliminate muons  
improve stability

IACT - Imaging Air Cerenkov  
Telescope

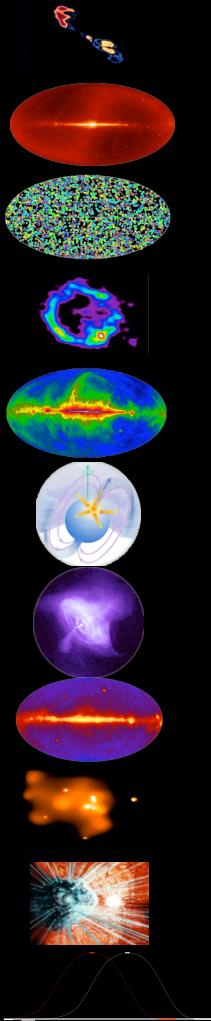
from CANGAROO www site

# Development of the IACT

- First Generation Systems 1960 – 1985
  - Weak or no discrimination
  - Lebedev, Glencullen, Whipple, Narrabri, Crimea....
- Second Generation Systems 1985 – 2004
  - Atmospheric Cherenkov Imaging Telescopes
  - Whipple, Crimea, CAT, HEGRA, Durham, SHALON, CANGAROO.....
- Third Generation Systems 2004 –
  - Arrays of Large IACTs
  - MAGIC, HESS, CANGAROO-III ..... VERITAS
- Fourth Generation Systems?
  - Watch this space!

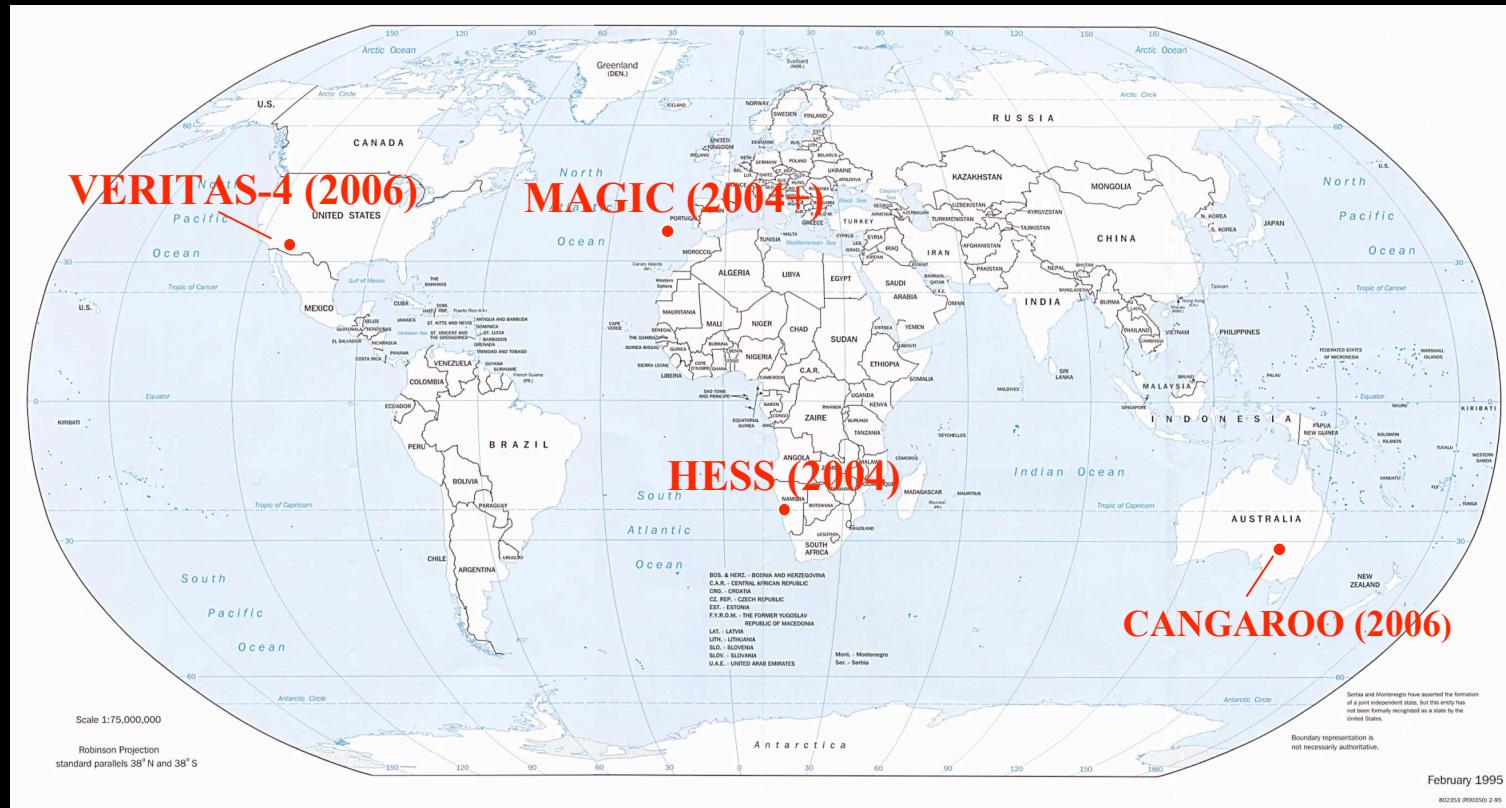
ACIT Sources  
Zero  
 $\sim 12$   
 $\rightarrow 100$   
1000?

# Science Snapshots

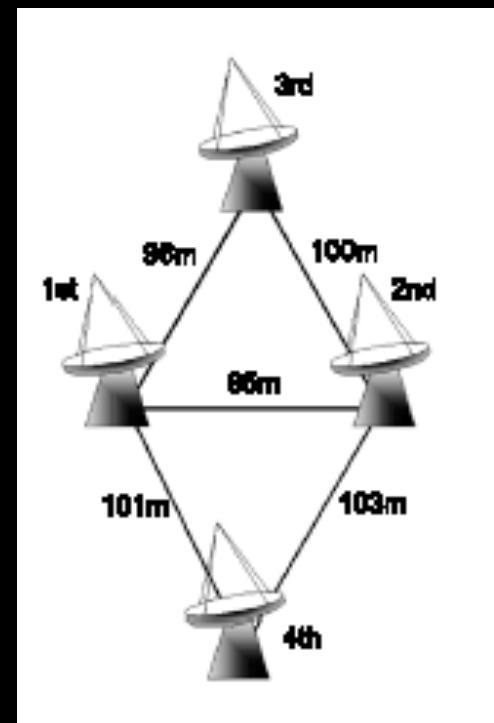


- Active Galactic Nuclei**
- Extragalactic Background Light**
- Gamma Ray Bursts**
- Shell-type Supernova Remnants**
- Galactic Diffuse Emission**
- Gamma-ray Pulsars**
- Plerions**
- Unidentified Galactic EGRET Sources**
- Dark Matter (Neutralino Annihilation)**
- Cosmic Ray Origin**
- Lorentz symmetry violation**

# The World-Wide Network of 3rd Generation IACTs



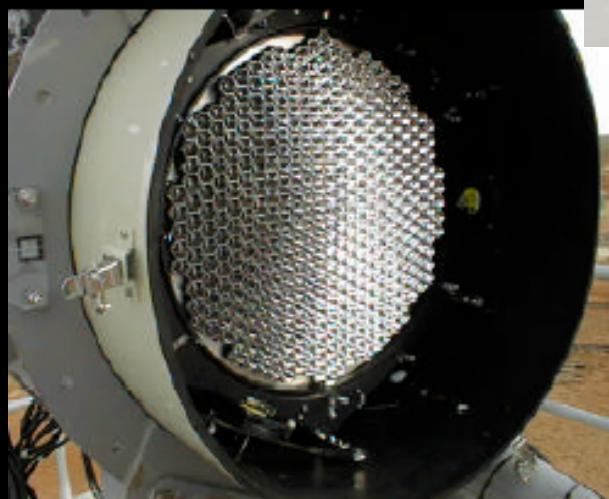
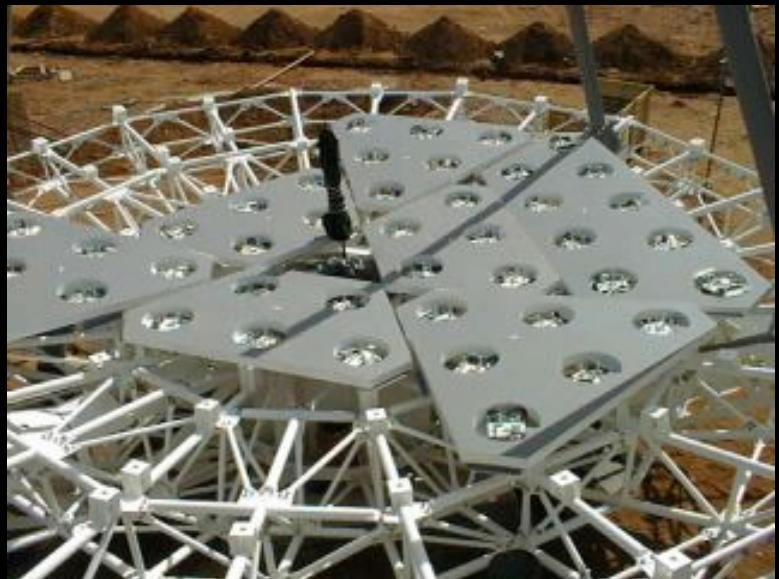
CANGAROO-III\* - Japan/Australia Site: Woomera, Australia )  
(for details see <http://icrhp9.icrr.u-tokyo.ac.jp/>)

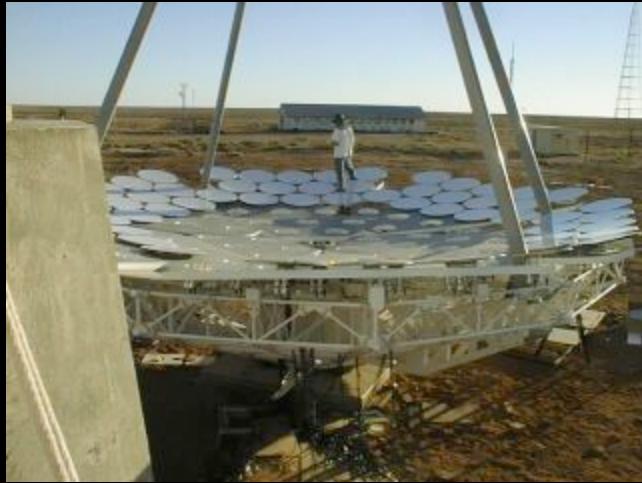


\* Collaboration of Australia and Nippon for a Gamma Ray Observatory in the Outback

TeV particle-astro FNAL 2005

- Telescopes 10m w/8m focal length
- Array of 4 telescopes
- 57 m<sup>2</sup> light collecting area per telescope
- New Cameras 427 3/4" PMTs, 0.17 degree pixels
- 4 degree FOV
- Electronics - TDC & gated ADC





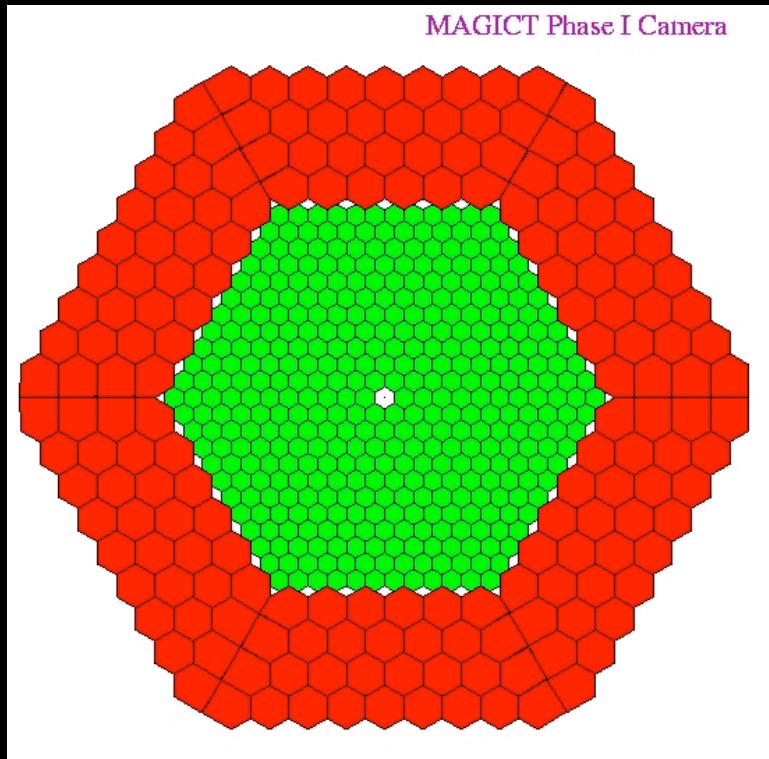
Construction of telescopes complete in March 2004

TeV particle-astro FNAL 2005

MAGIC - Germany/Spain/Italy/Swiss (mostly) - Site: Canary Islands  
(see <http://wwwmagic.mppmu.mpg.de>)



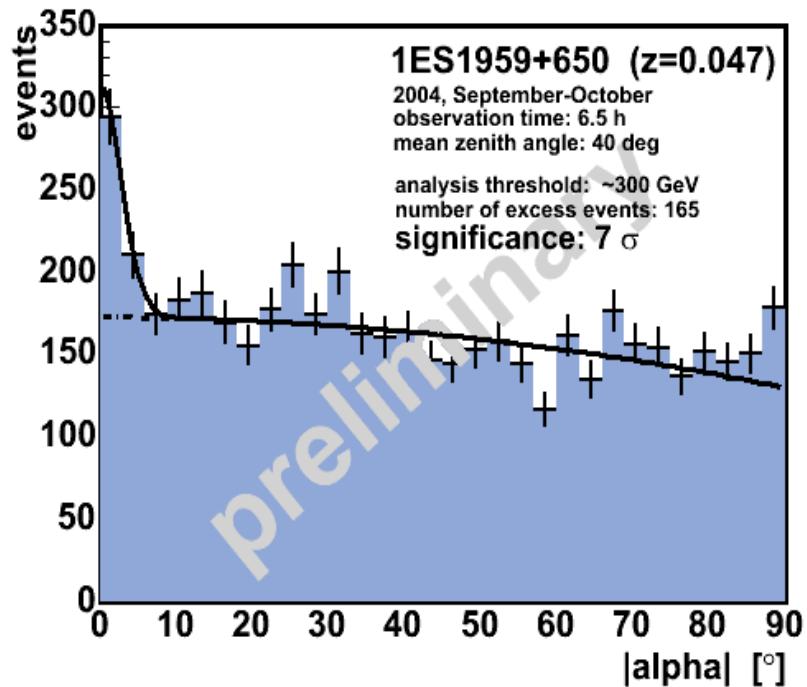
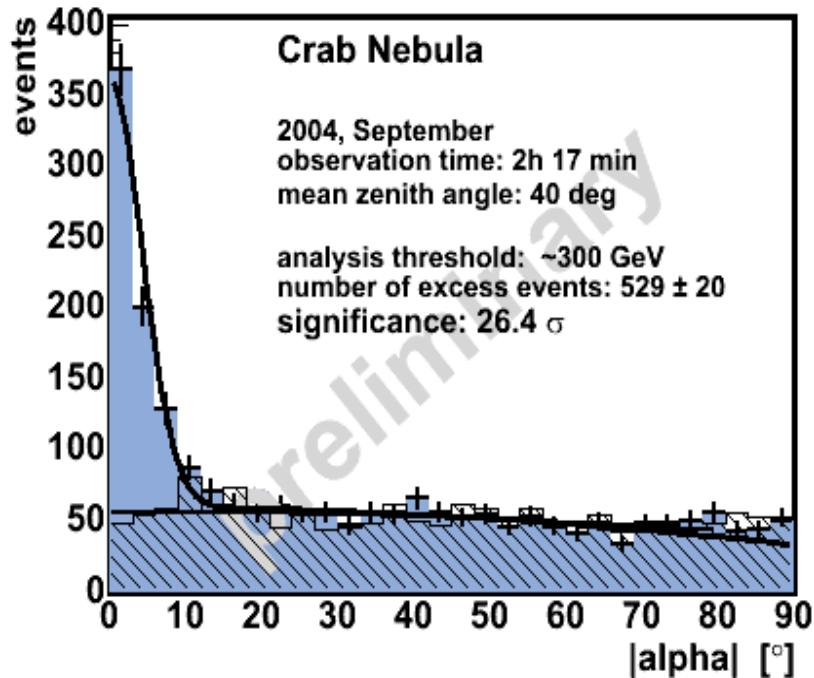
- Telescope 17m f~1
- 239 m<sup>2</sup> light collecting area
- Cameras 396 1" PMTs, 0.08 degree pixels + 180 1.5", 0.13 degree
- 3.5 degree FOV
- Electronics - 300MHz FADC -> 1GHz FADC
- 20 second slew capacity (40tons!) for GRB
- MAGIC II being planned





TeV particle-astro FNAL 2005

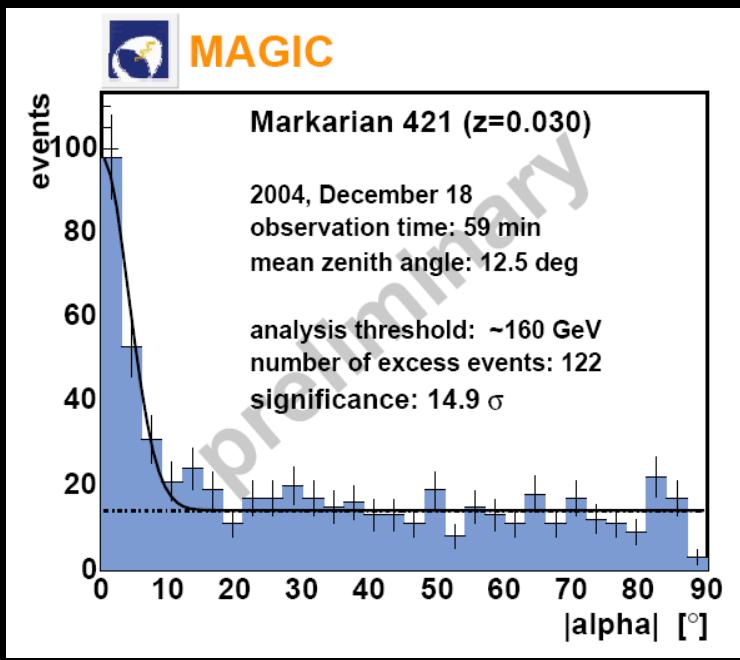
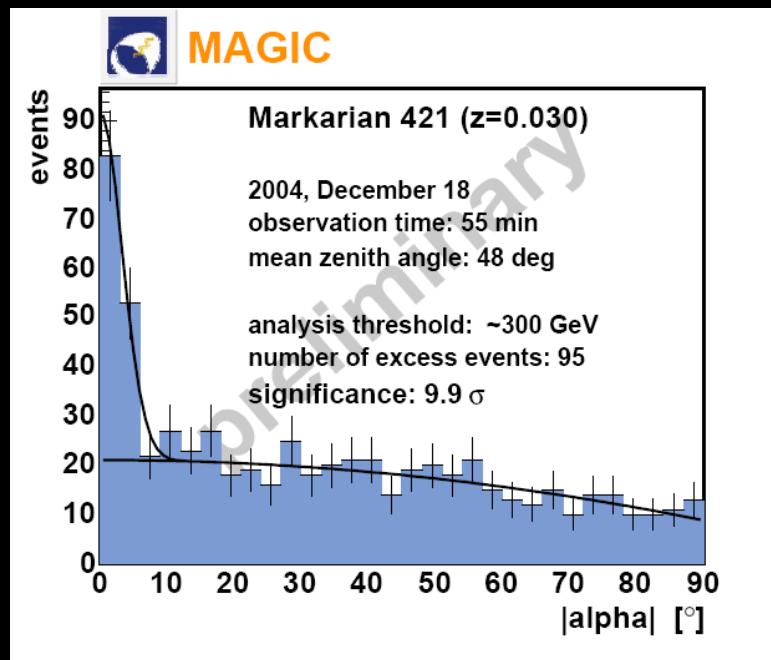
## Some preliminary results from MAGIC - La Thuile, 2005



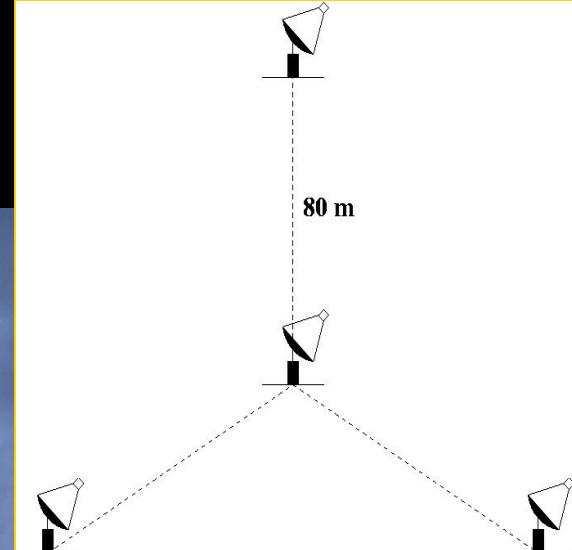
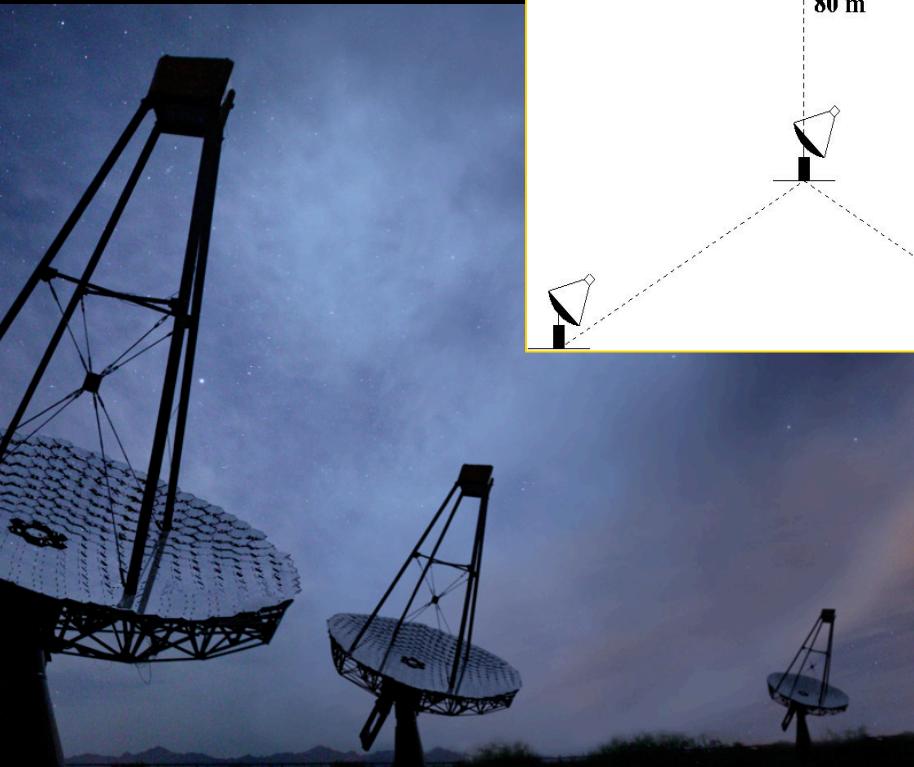
Crab Nebula: Size >2000 ph  
Significance:  $26.4 \sigma$  Excess events:  $529 \pm 20$

1ES 1959 + 650: Size >2000 ph  
Significance:  $7.0 \sigma$  Excess events: 165

# Markarian 421



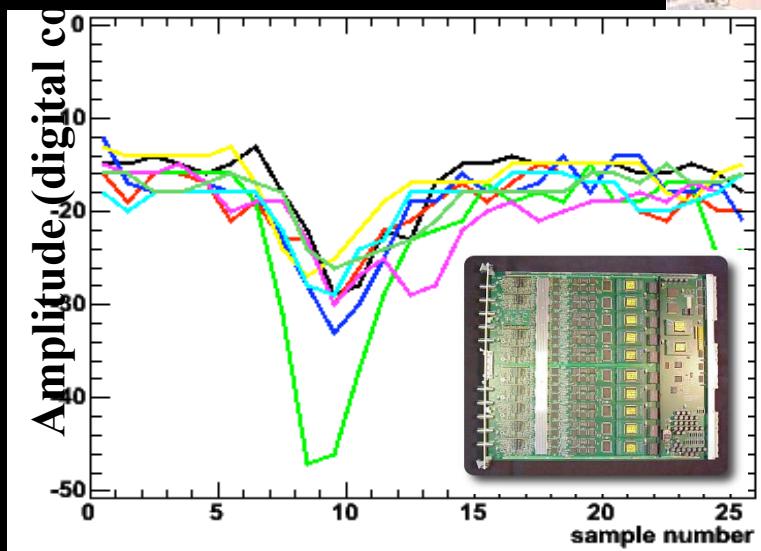
VERITAS\* - USA/Canada/UK/Ireland - Site: Arizona  
(see <http://veritas.sao.arizona.edu/>)

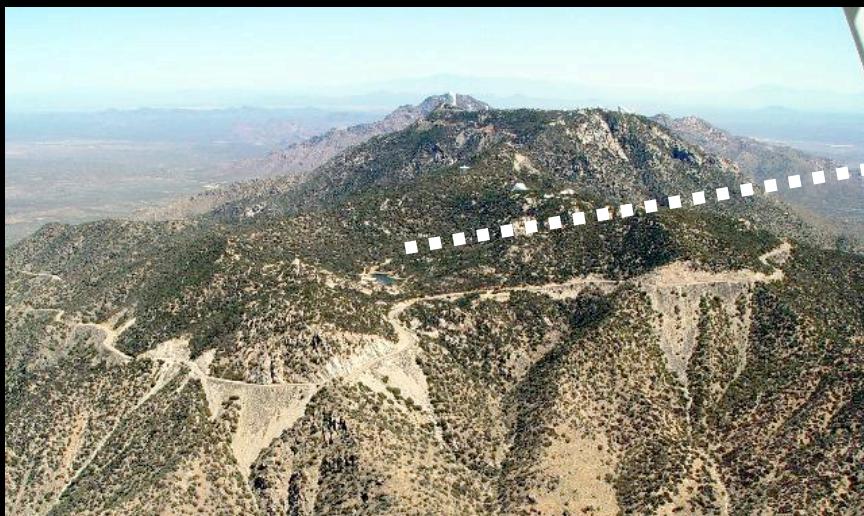


\* Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System

TeV particle-astro FNAL 2005

- Telescope, 12m diameter f1
- 4 telescope array, 80m spacing
- 110 m<sup>2</sup> light collecting area
- Cameras 499 3/4" PMTs, 0.15 degree pixels
- 3.5 degree FOV
- Electronics - 500MHz FADC
- Array level trigger





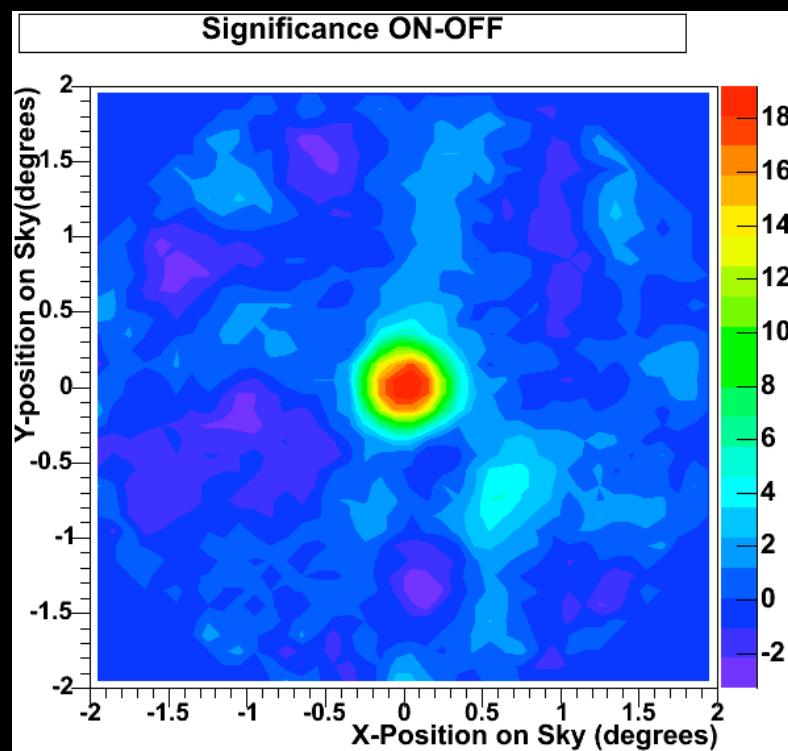
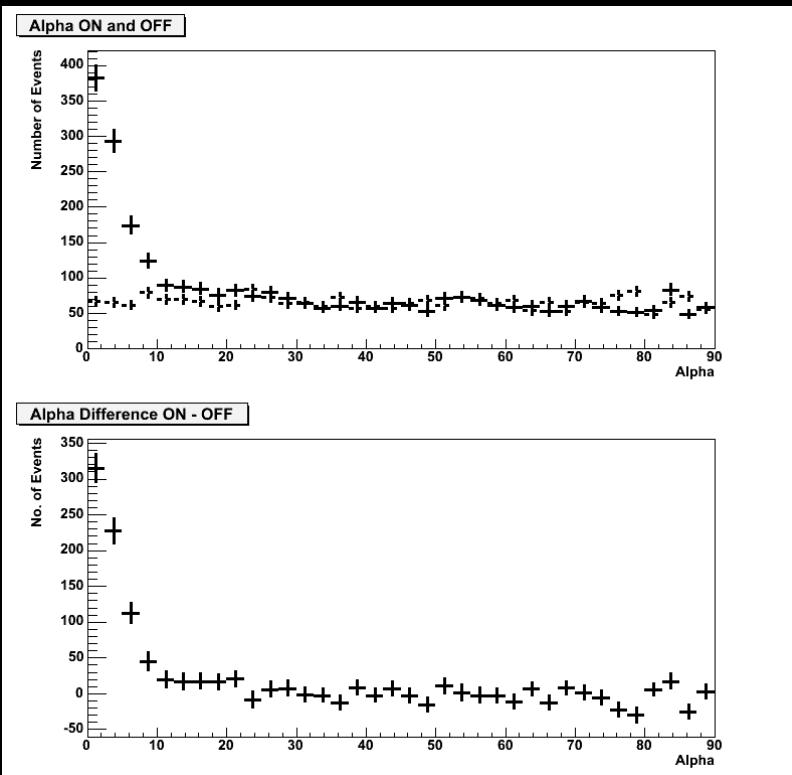
TeV particle-astro FNAL 2005

# Crab Nebula

4.37 hours ON; +21.1 sigma

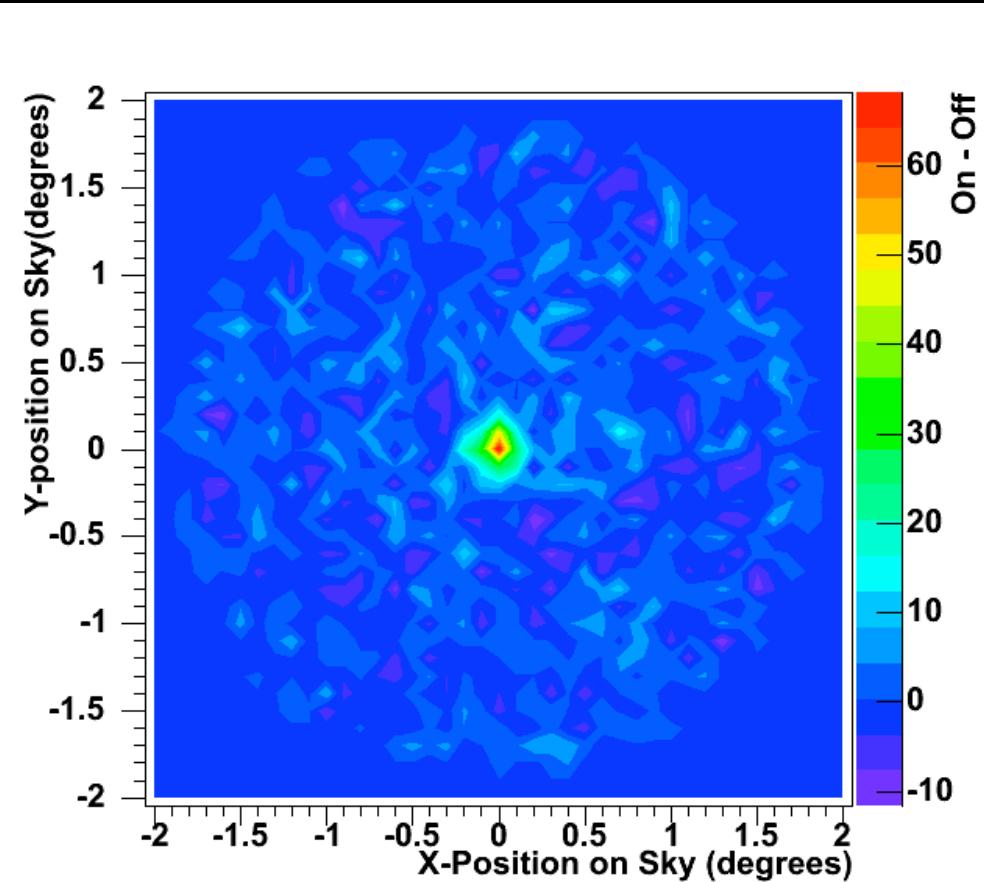
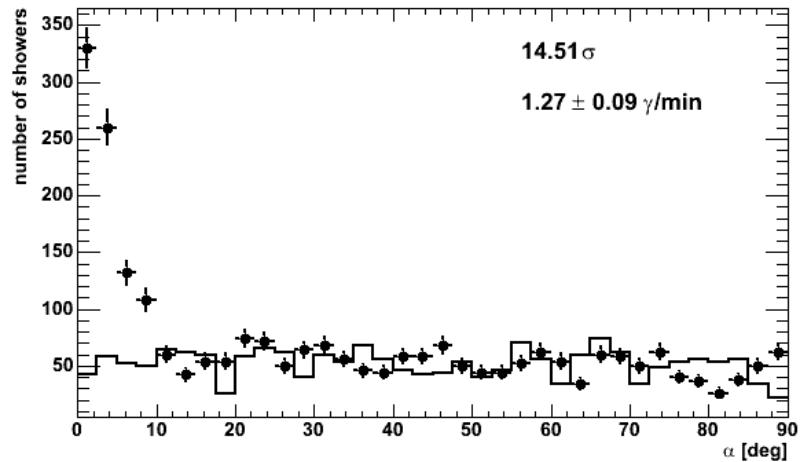
2.56 gammas/minute

10.1 sigma/sqrt(time in hours)

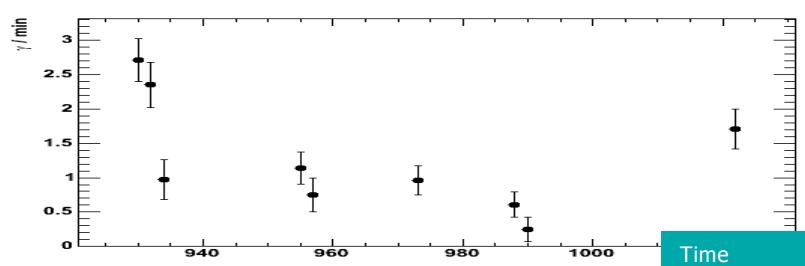


# Markarian 421

## 5.6 hours ON      +14.51 sigma



Light Curve



TeV particle-astro    FNAL 2005

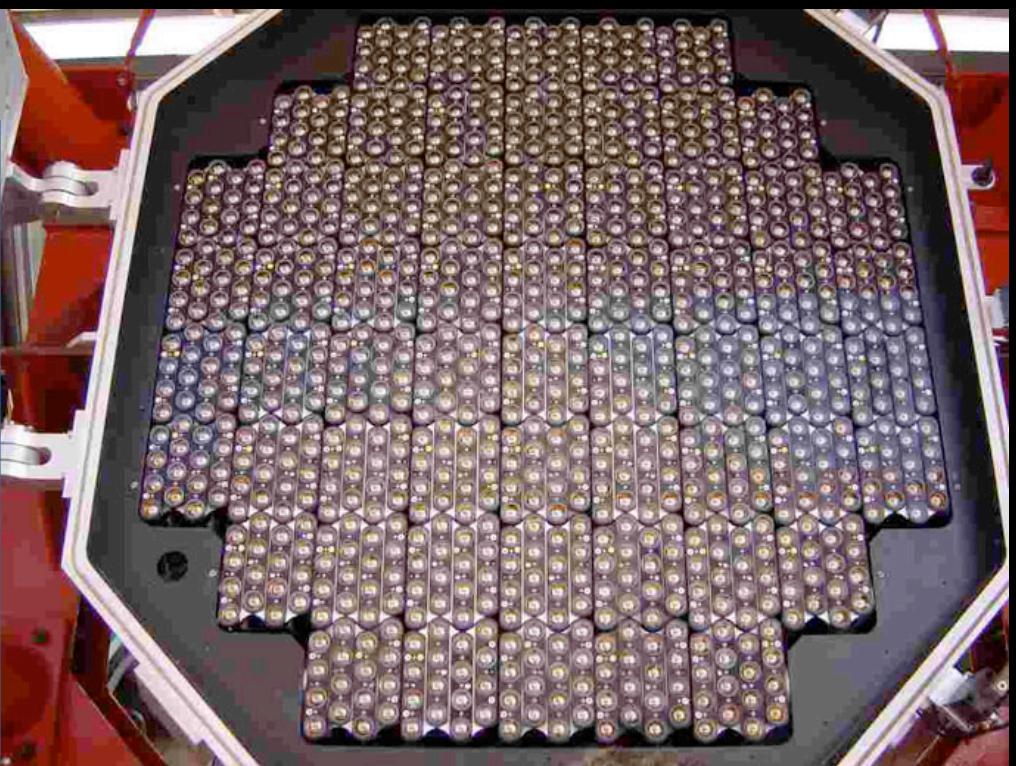
**HESS\* - Germany/France/+others - Site: Namibia**  
(see <http://www.mpi-hd.mpg.de/hfm/HESS/>)

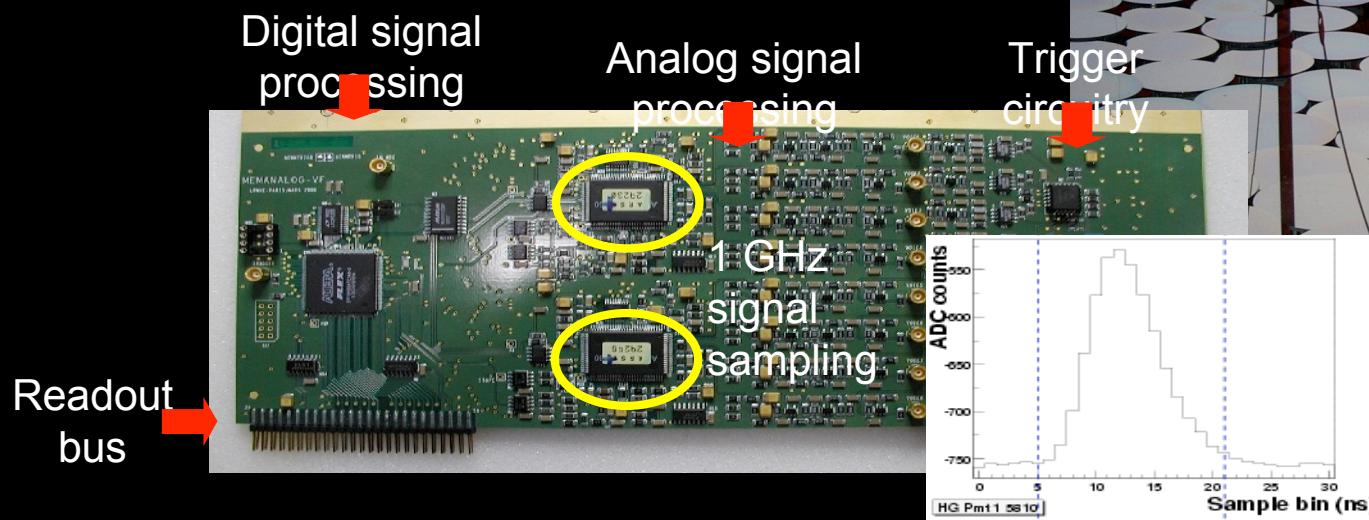
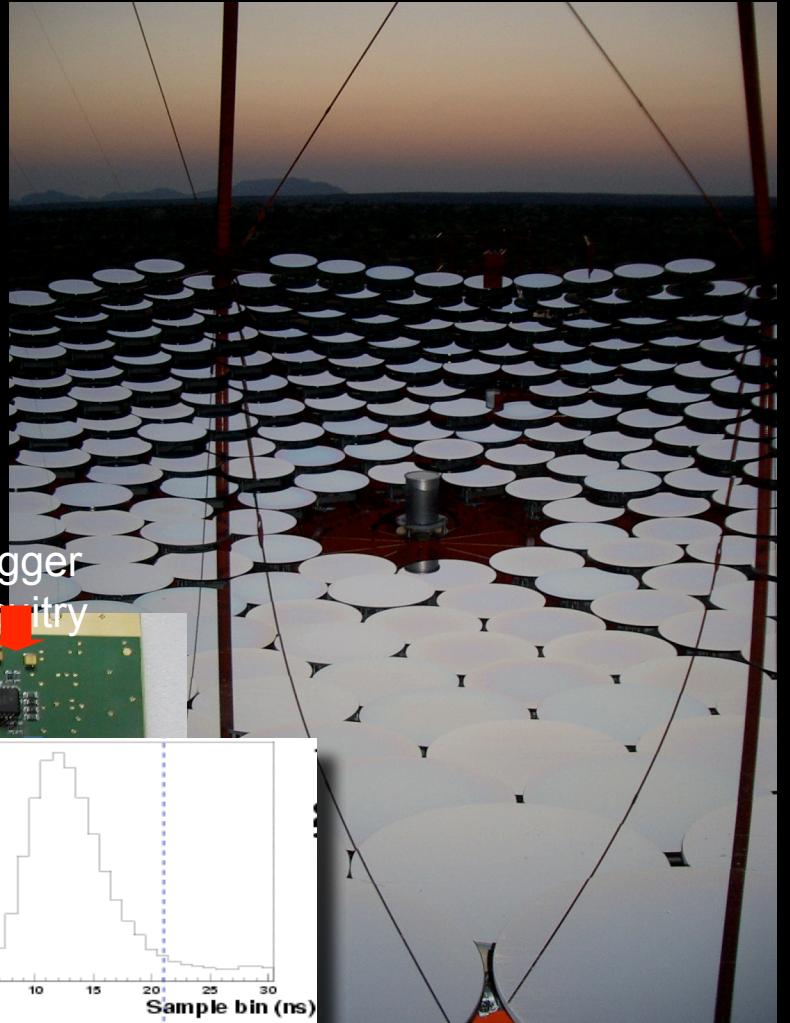


\* High Energy Stereoscopic System

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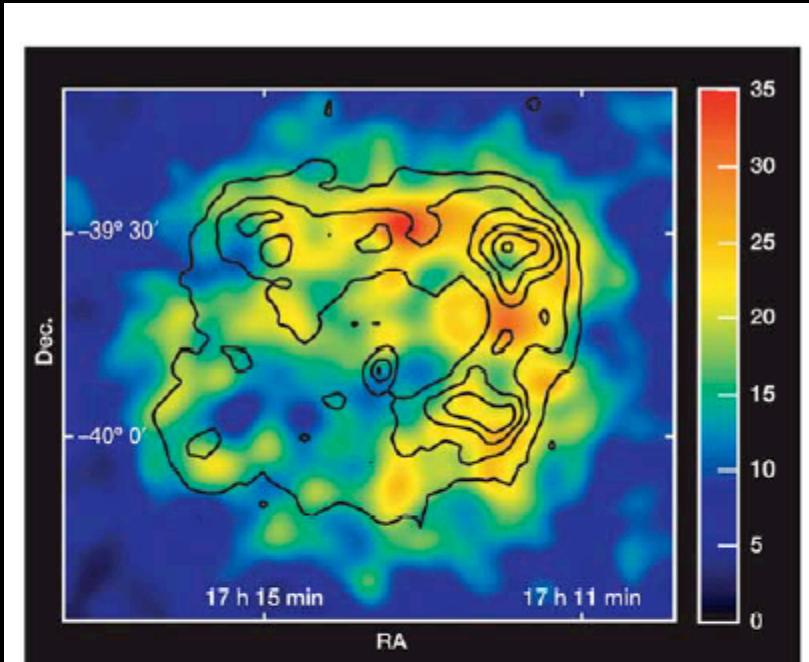
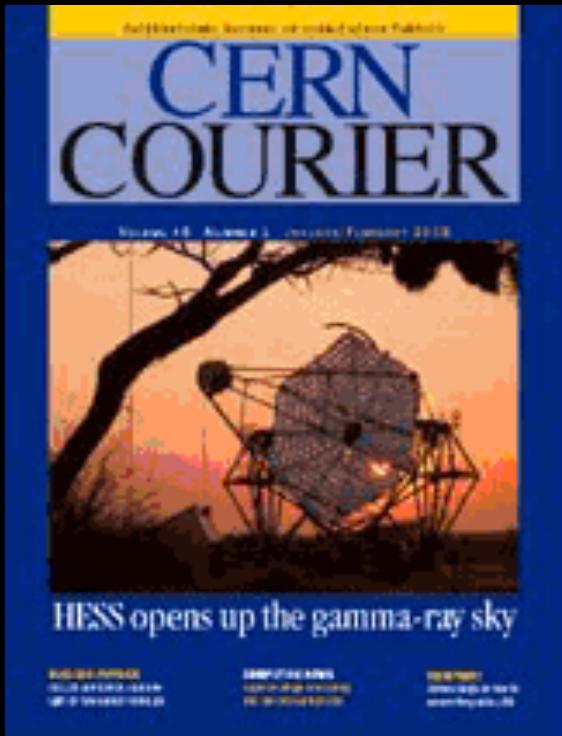
- Telescope, focal length 15m
- 4 telescope square array, 120m spacing
- 107 m<sup>2</sup> light collecting area
- Cameras 960 1" PMTs, 0.16 degree pixels
- 5 degree FOV
- Electronics - ARS Chip
- Larger (~30m) central telescope planned





TeV particle-astro FNAL 2005

## HESS - SNR RXJ1713

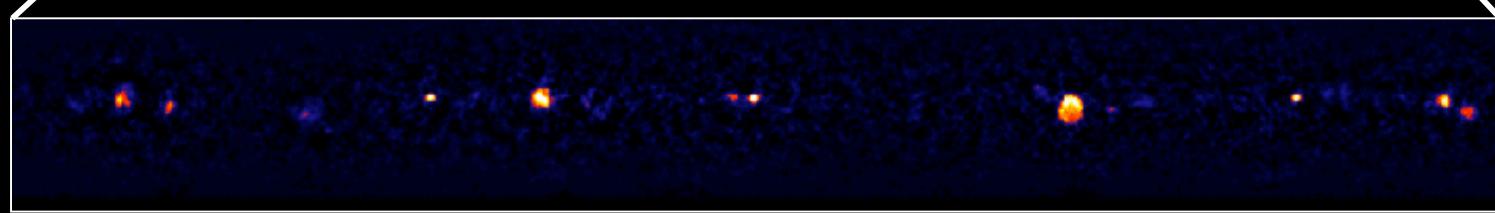
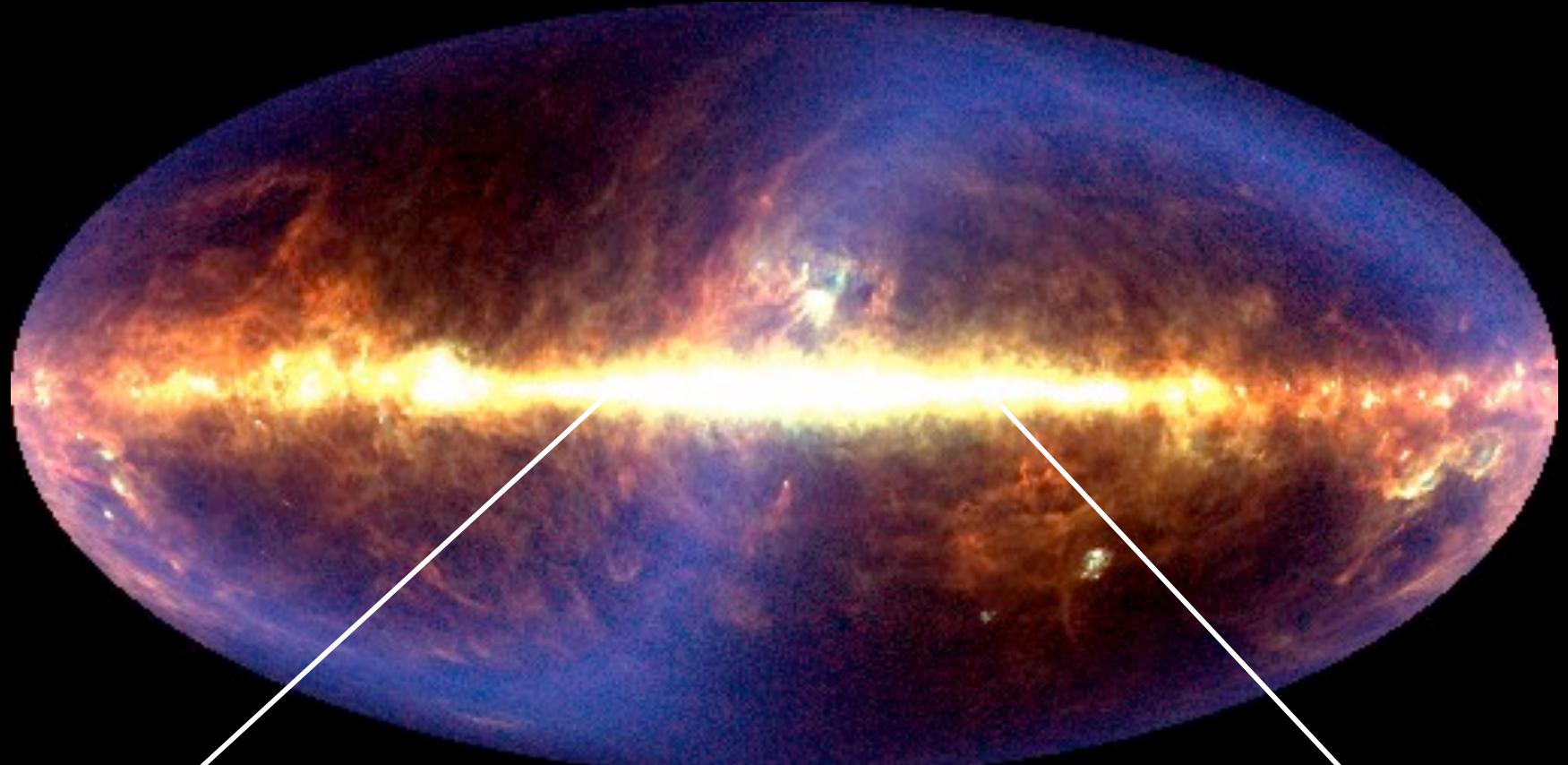


**Figure 2**  $\gamma$ -ray image of the SNR RX J1713.7 – 3946 obtained with the HESS telescopes. Hard cuts were applied to select well-reconstructed  $\gamma$ -like events above 800 GeV. The map is smoothed as in Fig. 1, having the same scale in units of counts. The linear colour scale is in units of counts. We note that no background subtraction or camera-efficiency corrections have been applied. This demonstrates that the structures seen are not artefacts of the analysis but real and visible in the raw post-cuts data (the background in the field of view is at a level of about five counts, and the efficiency across the SNR changes by less than 10%). This image, obtained with a partial array during construction, demonstrates the ability of HESS to map extended objects. The superimposed (linearly spaced) contours show the X-ray surface brightness as seen by ASCA in the 1–3 keV range for comparison<sup>25</sup>. Note that the angular resolution of ASCA is comparable to that of HESS which enables direct comparison of the two images. RA, right ascension; dec., declination.

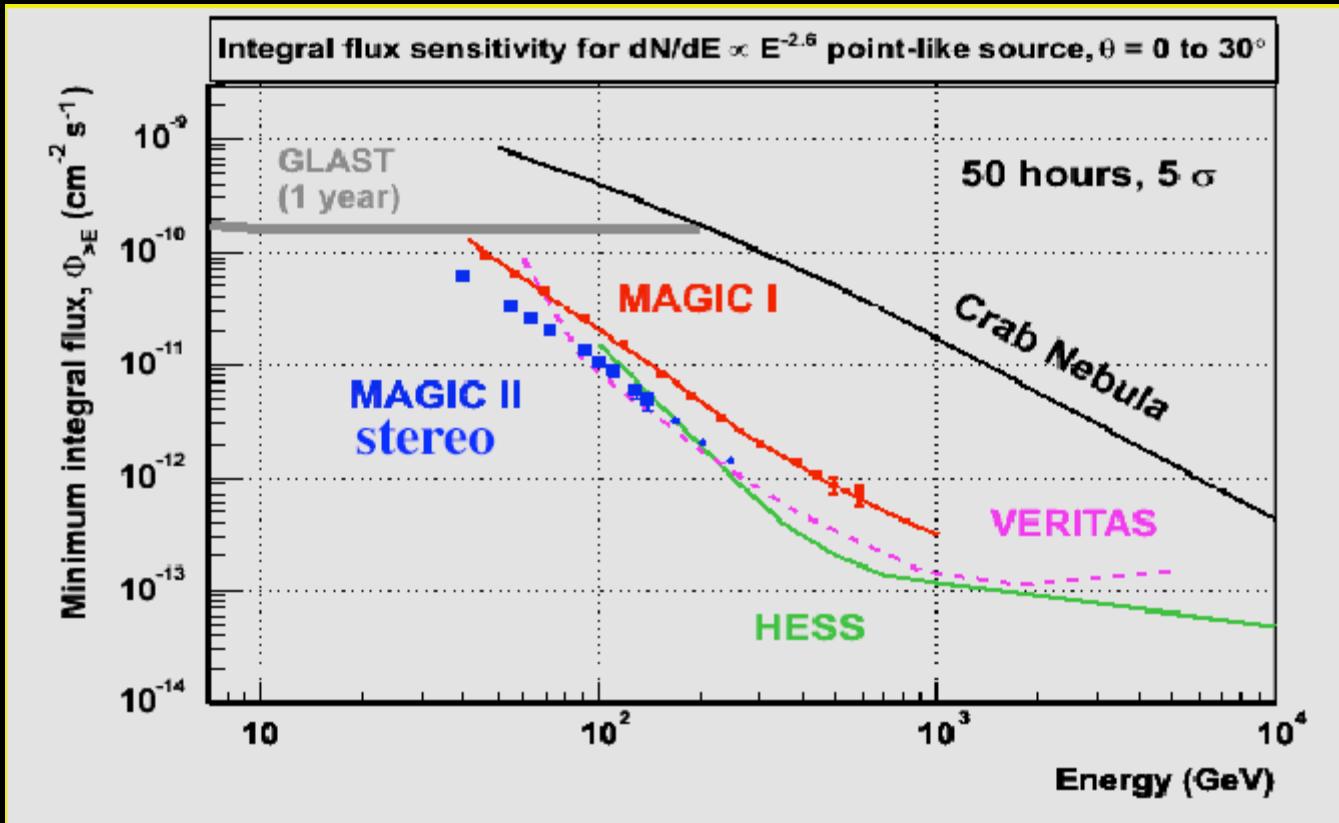
Nature Publishing Group

NATURE | VOL 432 | 4 NOVEMBER 2004 | www.nature.com/nature

TeV particle-astro FNAL 2005

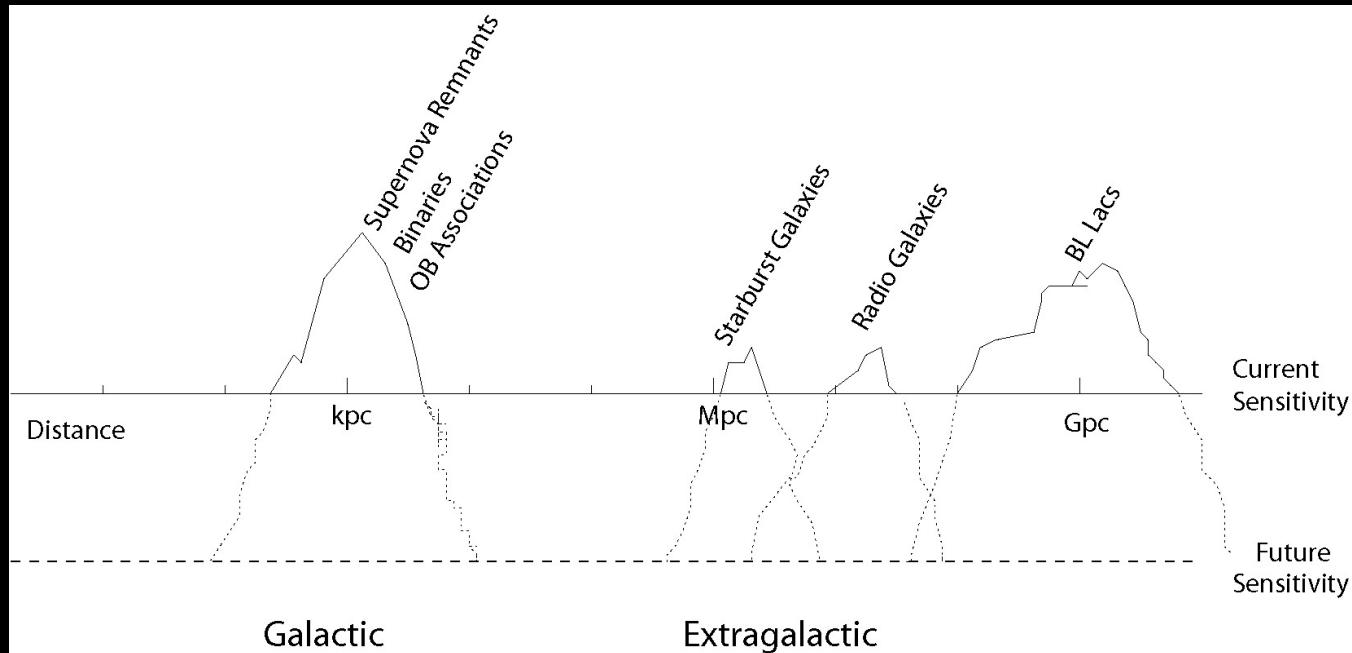


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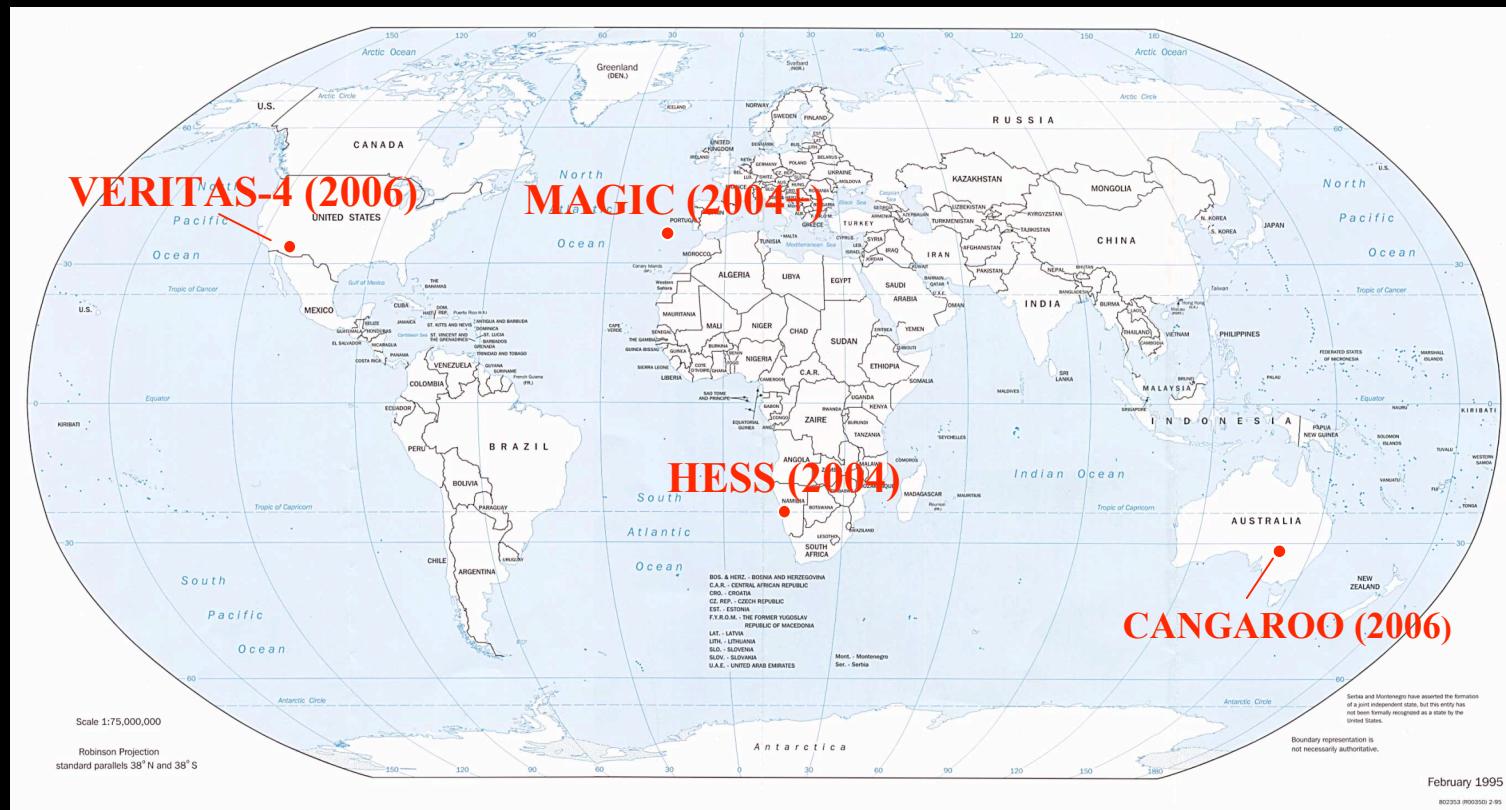
(from MAGIC)

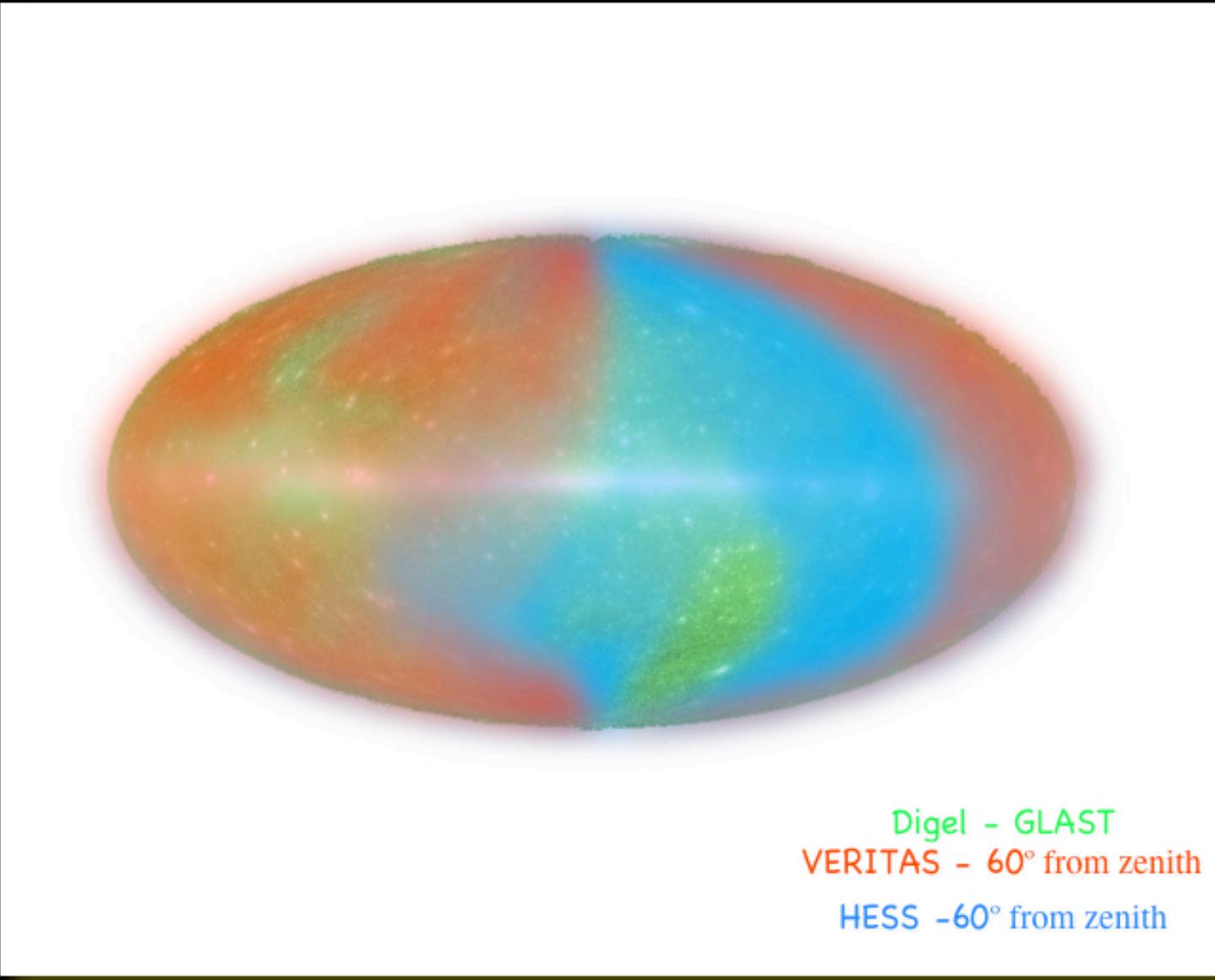
At VERITAS symposium at Adler 2003 T. Weekes ~12 sources, 50/50 galactic/extragalactic, and.....



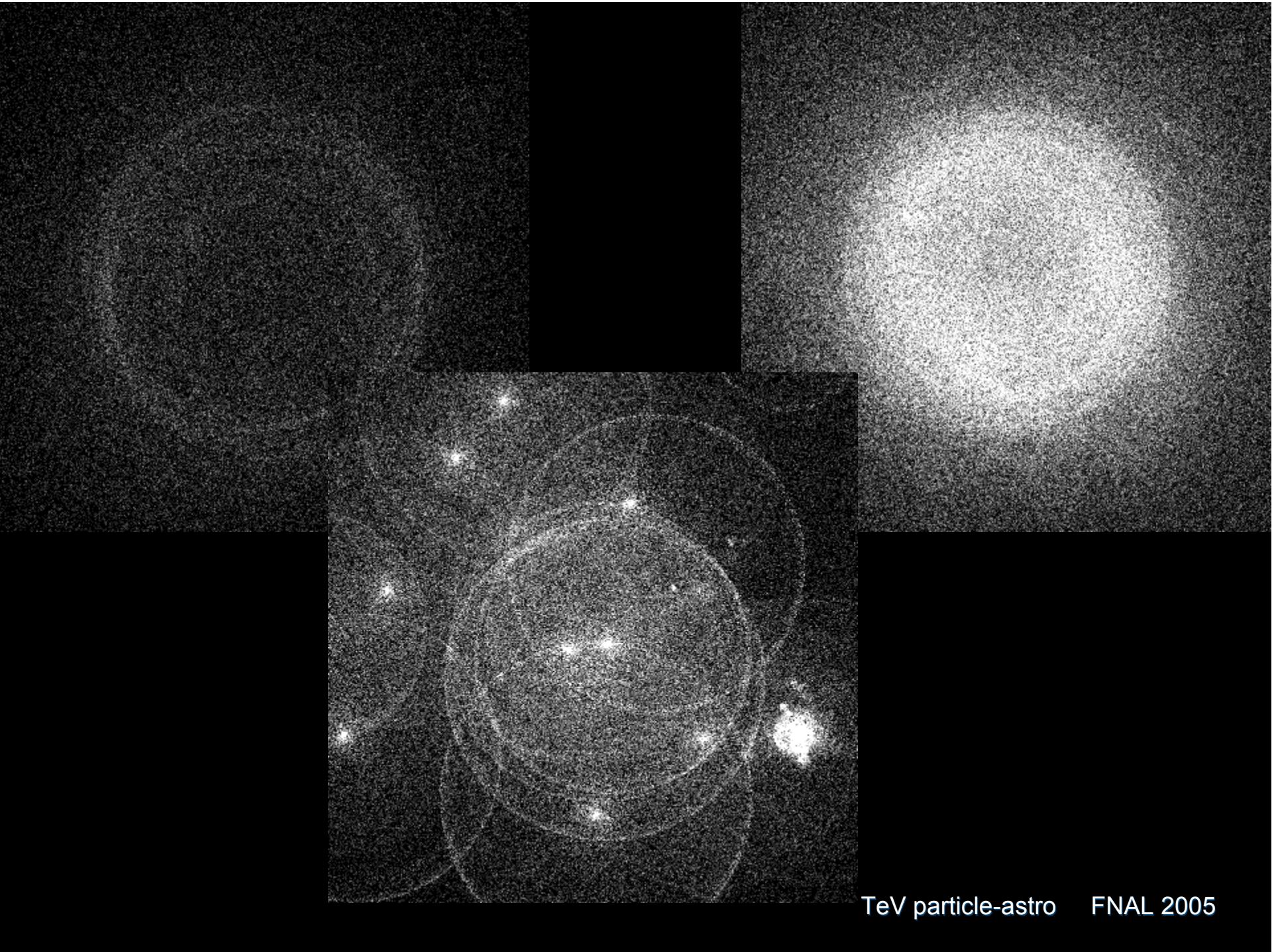
- CANGAROO - operational 2006
- MAGIC - operational 2004
- VERITAS - operational 2006
- HESS - operational 2004 -> many new sources, IMAGES!

# The World-Wide Network of 3rd Generation IACTs





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TeV particle-astro FNAL 2005