# The connection between the radio and the very-high-energy sky.





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### Outline

Observing the sky in VHE  $\gamma$ -rays

Links with radio observations :

- -> e.g. radio galaxies & blazars
- -> e.g. pulsars

**Outlook : CTA Key Science Projects** 

### Observing the sky in VHE y-rays



### Imaging Air Cherenkov Telescopes & Air Shower Arrays



Cherenkov light from gamma-induced air shower (CTA Collaboration)



schema of a HAWC detector unit

	IACT arrays	air shower arrays
duty cycle	~10-15 %	> 90 %
field of view	~ 5 deg x 5 deg	~ 2 sr
angular resolution	~0.06 deg (>10 TeV)	~ 0.1-0.2 deg (>10 TeV)
energy resolution	~ 20%	~ 50% (>10 TeV)
energy threshold	a few 10 GeV	a few 100 GeV

# currently operational instruments

#### the largest IACT arrays :

H.E.S.S., MAGIC, VERITAS (run by international consortia)

- 2 to 5 telescopes of 12 to 28 m diameter
- design Davies-Cotton or parabolic; cameras equipped with PMTs
- wide field of view (3 5 deg); angular resolution several arc min.
- energy range of a few 10 GeV a few 10 TeV





The MAGIC Array in La Palma.

The H.E.S.S. Array in Namibia

The VERITAS Array in Arizona



# currently operational instruments

#### the largest air shower arrays :

Tibet AS Gamma (China/Japan 1999)

 array in Tibet consisting of ~600 scintillation detectors and underground muon detectors (water Cherenkov detectors)
 energy threshold of a few TeV



The Tibet AS Gamma experiment in Tibet.

#### HAWC (US/Mexican collaboration 2015)

array of 300 water Cherenkov tanks at high altitude
instantaneous field of view covering 15% of the sky;
2/3 of the sky observed during each 24 h period
energy threshold of a few 100 GeV, ~10 x more
sensitive than Tibet array at a few TeV



The HAWC Observatory in Puebla, Mexico. Photo credit: INAOE

#### the high-energy sky (~GeV)



9 years of Fermi-LAT data > 1 GeV, Gal. Coord.



several 10 PWN, SNR



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225 sources detected at VHE (75 AGN, 3 GRBs, 4 pulsars, 66 SNRs & PWNe, 11 binaries, 65 unidentified) http://tevcat.uchicago.edu







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# Cherenkov Telescope Array

(Int. Consortium of 1500 members from 31 countries, operations planned for ~2025)

- Two arrays with four different types/sizes of telescopes: Canaries/La Palma (final layout 4 LSTs, 15 MSTs), Chile/Paranal (final layout 4 LSTs, 25 MSTs, 70 SSTs, several SCTs) for full-sky coverage
- Different telescope sizes permit coverage from a few 10 GeV to a few 100 TeV with high resolution (down to arc minute) and high sensitivity.
- **First open VHE observatory** : proposal driven observations, with a fraction of the observation time reserved for Key Science Projects by the Collaboration; data will be publicly released
- current status: tests with the first LST built in La Palma; infrastructure planning for Chile



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0QgnKA5AUDY

# Cherenkov Telescope Array - prototypes

![](_page_10_Picture_1.jpeg)

LST (23m) La Palma - Spain

![](_page_10_Picture_3.jpeg)

MST (12m) Zeuthen - Germany

![](_page_10_Picture_5.jpeg)

ASTRI SST (4m) Etna - Italy

![](_page_10_Picture_7.jpeg)

SCT (10m) Arizona - USA

![](_page_10_Picture_9.jpeg)

GCT SST (4m) Meudon - France A. Zech - Atelier LOFAR MeerKAT NenuFAR

# future air shower arrays

LHAASO (China, partial observations started in 2019)

- array at altitude for cosmic-ray and  $\gamma$ -ray physics
- $\gamma$ -rays > 200 GeV to 1 PeV; sensitive mostly above a few TeV
- large array of scintillators and water Cherenkov tanks (KM2A); central large water Cherenkov detector (WCDA); 12 wide-field Cherenkov telescopes (WFCTA)
- survey of ~56% of the whole sky in a day
- -> full operations by 2021

- Southern Wide-Field Gamma-ray Observatory (Int. Collaboration, foreseen for 2026)
- similar technique as LHAASO and HAWC (water Cherenkov detectors), exact design to be decided
- close to 100% duty cycle and ~ sr field of view
- at altitude in South America
- a few 100 GeV to a few 100 TeV

-> complementary to LHAASO and to the future CTA

![](_page_11_Figure_13.jpeg)

![](_page_11_Figure_14.jpeg)

![](_page_11_Figure_15.jpeg)

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# Links with radio observations :

### e.g. radio galaxies & blazars

### extended VHE emission from Centaurus A

![](_page_13_Picture_1.jpeg)

- extended emission above 240 GeV : elliptical Gaussian preferred at TS = 19.4 over point source
- aligned with the kpc-scale jet
- extension of ~ 3 kpc
  - -> highly energetic particles over large distances
  - -> requires efficient re-acceleration mechanisms

![](_page_13_Figure_7.jpeg)

Upscattering of starlight along the kpc jet ?

**Figure 8.** A map of 1-TeV IC emission from the jet of Cen A (assuming  $\theta = 50^{\circ}$ ,  $\beta = 0.51$ , as described in the text). The image can be seen to be significantly brighter close to the active nucleus and the centre of the host galaxy (left-hand side) compared to the model synchrotron image of Fig. 1. Axis labels are in kpc.

SIMULATION, Hardcastle & Croston, 2011

### Linking VLBI and VHE in Ap Librae

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Ap Librae is one of the few "low-frequency peaked" BL Lac type blazars detected at VHE.
- Combining information from VLBI features (MOJAVE) and high-energy emission (HESS)
- high-energy emission mostly due to "blob" electrons upscattering "jet" photons.

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### MWL flares from M 87

![](_page_15_Picture_1.jpeg)

**Correlated variability during flares** allows to match lowand high-energy components.

Acciari et al. Science 2009

#### MWL flares from M 87

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

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### MWL flares from M 87

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

**Figure 14:** An open structured toroidal jet to simulate M 87.

![](_page_17_Figure_3.jpeg)

**Figure 15:** Observed radio light curve for M 87 with one ejecta in the observer frame. (orange: data from VLBA at 43 GHz; blue: our simulation)

- hybrid SRMHD & radiative modelling of MWL emission from relativistic jets in y-loud AGN
- flares arise when ejecta of dense plasma interact with standing (recollimation) shocks in the jet

G. Fichet de Clairfontaine, Z. Meliani, AZ, HEPRO 2019 proceedings (PoS)

![](_page_18_Figure_0.jpeg)

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# e.g. the Vela pulsar at VHE

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

- peak spectrum curved in 10 100 GeV range, with sub-exponential cutoff
- evidence for a hard spectral component beyond 100 GeV before the peak !

 40 hr of observations with HESS II CT5 mono analysis from ~10 GeV to 100 GeV
 + 8 yr of Fermi-LAT data

![](_page_19_Figure_5.jpeg)

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# pulses in MWL

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

- so far only four detections of pulsed emission with Cherenkov telescopes (Crab, Vela, Geminga, B1706-44)
- great variety of pulse profiles at different energies
- in general, VHE emission only possible at a sufficient distance from the pulsar surface to avoid y-y absorption.

![](_page_21_Picture_1.jpeg)

5. KSP: Galactic Centre – C. Farnier, K. Kosack, R. Terrier
6. KSP: Galactic Plane Survey – R.C.G. Chaves, R. Mukherjee, R.A. Ong
7. KSP: LMC Survey – P. Martin, C. Lu, H. Voelk, M. Renaud, M. Filipovic
8. KSP: Extragalactic Survey – D. Mazin, L. Gerard, J.E. Ward, P. Giommi, A.M. Brown
9. KSP: Transients – S. Inoue, M. Ribó, E. Bernardini, V. Connaughton, J. Granot, S. Markoff, P. O Brie
10. KSP: Cosmic Ray PeVatrons – R.C.G. Chaves, E. De Oña Wilhelmi, S. Gabici, M. Renaud
11. KSP: Star Forming Systems – S. Casanova, S. Ohm, L. Tibaldo
12. KSP: Active Galactic Nuclei – A. Zech, D. Mazin, J. Biteau, M. Daniel, T. Hassan, E. Lindfors, M.
13. KSP: Clusters of Galaxies – F. Zandanel. M Fornasa

![](_page_22_Picture_1.jpeg)

The AGN KSP :

- pointed observations of a selection of AGN

- follow-up of AGN flare alerts

- long-term monitoring of light curves, together with MWL coverage, for ~10 sources.

Several deep exposures of Centaurus A to confirm / search for extended emission (kpc jet, radio lobes)

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

**Galactic Plane Survey KSP** : full GP coverage at the level of a few mCrab

![](_page_23_Figure_3.jpeg)

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![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

An **extragalactic survey** is foreseen to cover 1/4 of the sky at about 6 mCrab for AGN population studies.

# Conclusions

- VLBI information of major interest for our interpretation of y-loud AGN.

- Low-frequency radio emission from AGN important for a complete picture of jet launching and energetics

- γ-ray and VHE detections of pulsars find new spectral components that challenge current models.

- There will certainly be many more common science topics between the future radio and VHE instruments ! (Contacts between CTA and SKA have been established.)

# future instruments

Gamma-Cherenkov Telescope (GCT) - a prototype for CTA in Meudon

- first operational Schwarzschild-Couder telescope
- first observation of cosmic-ray air showers in Meudon in December 2015
- telescope developed at the OP (LUTH, GEPI), camera developed by UK/Japan/Germany
- first camera design was using MaPMTs, updated design using SiPMs
- -> The final design for the small-size telescopes (SSTs) of CTA will be a similar Schwarzschild-Couder telescope.

![](_page_26_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_8.jpeg)

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![](_page_27_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Figure_0.jpeg)

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