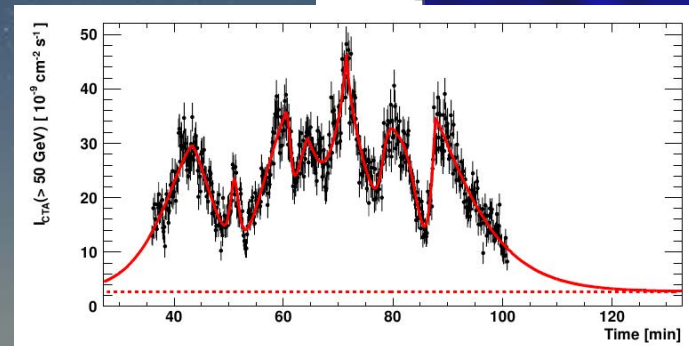
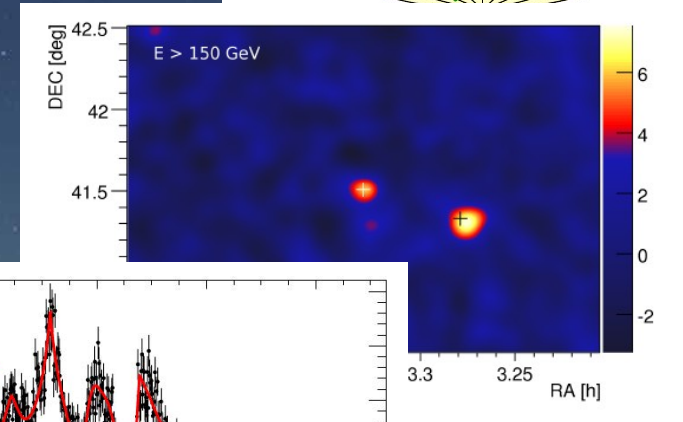
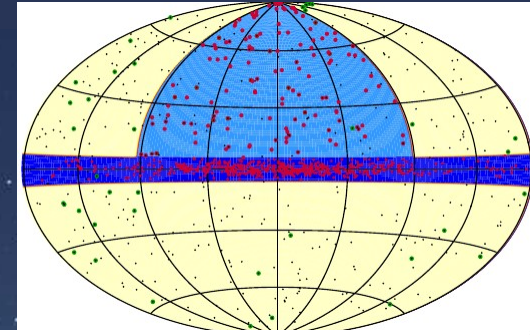


# Extragalactic Science with CTA

Anthony M. Brown<sup>1</sup>  
for the Cherenkov Telescope Array

<sup>1</sup>University of Durham, UK  
anthony.brown@durham.ac.uk

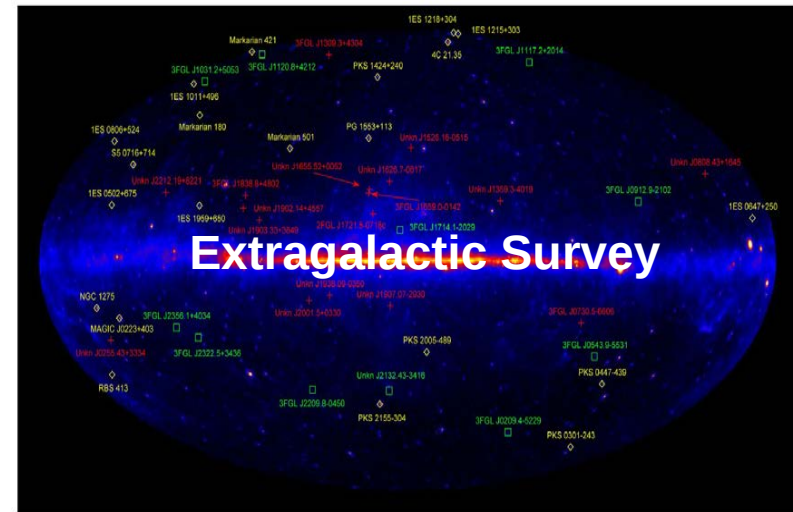
The Future of Research on Cosmic Rays  
26-29 August - La Palma - Canary Islands



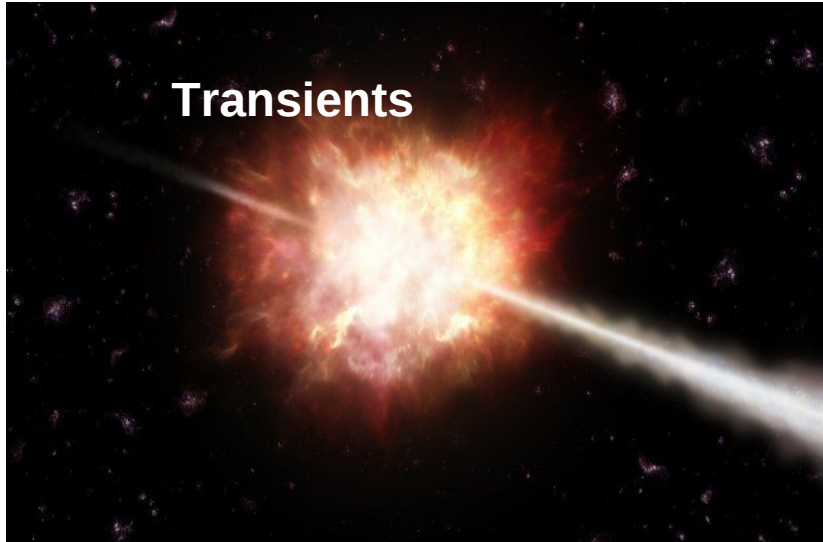
# Extragalactic Science Prospects



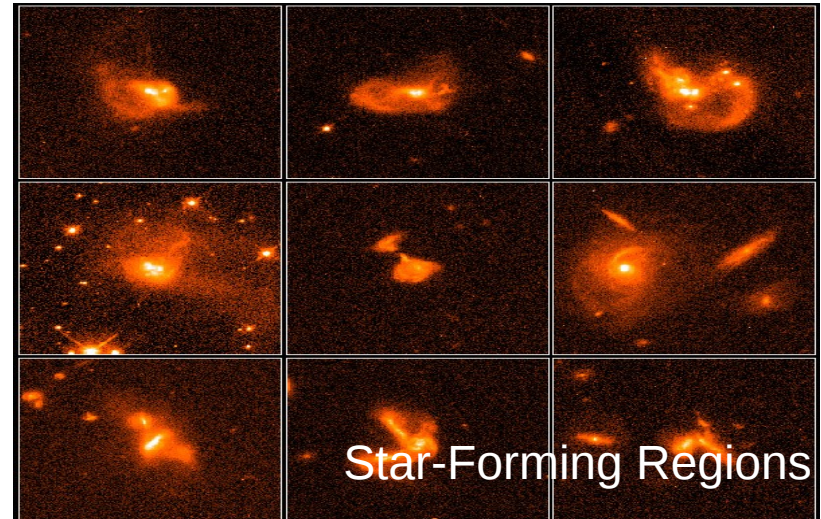
Extragalactic science topics covered today.



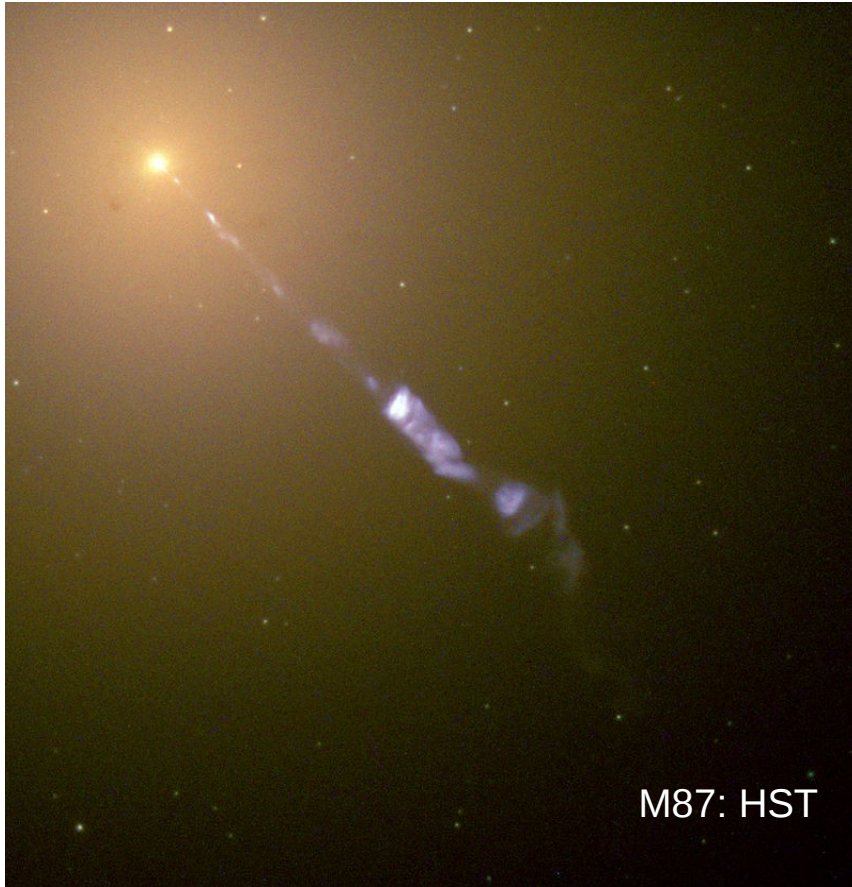
# Extragalactic Science Prospects



Other extragalactic science topics not covered today.







## Studies of AGN allow us to contribute to 3 key science goals of CTA.

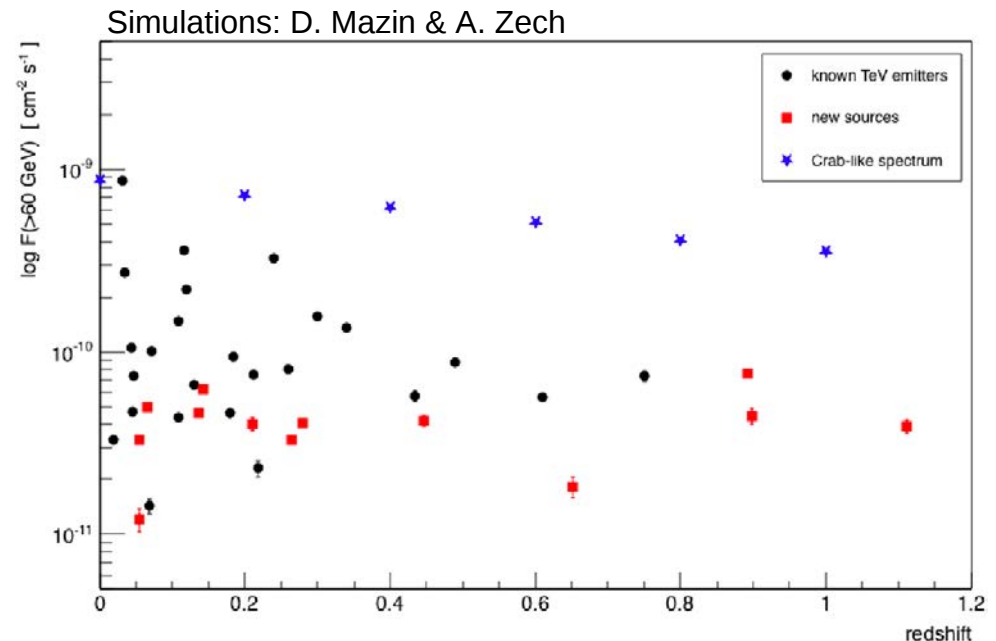
- Probing extreme environments
  - Understanding the physical processes within the AGN
- Understanding the origin and role of cosmic rays
  - Revealing the identity of the  $\gamma$ -ray emitting particles within the AGN
- Exploring frontiers in physics
  - Searching for Lorentz invariance violation & axion-like particles and constraining the extragalactic background light & intergalactic magnetic fields

## 3 key components

- Long term flux monitoring
  - List of select archetypal VHE bright AGN (different classes and redshift)
  - 30 minutes each week for each target when visible
  - Lightcurves & time resolved spectra over a 10 year baseline
- Flare monitoring
  - External triggers from other instruments (threshold TBD)
  - Internal triggers from regular (~fortnightly) snapshots with CTA subarrays for a large sample of AGN (different AGN classes and redshift)
- High-quality spectra
  - Systematic coverage of VHE spectra across a large redshift range and across a variety of AGN type

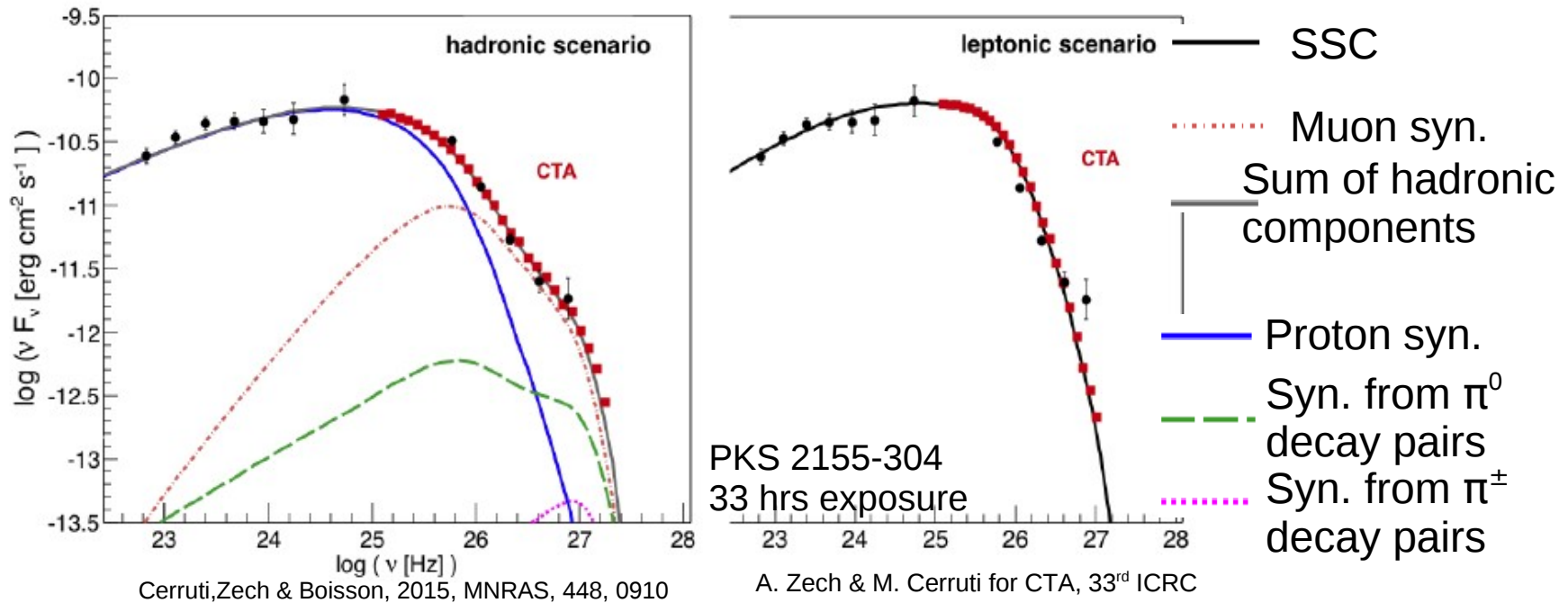
# AGN: High-quality spectra Strategy

- A large number of CTA's extragalactic science goals require high temporally-resolved spectra with excellent energy resolution
- Construct list of targets (both known **and** potential VHE emitters) by extrapolating from 2<sup>nd</sup> Fermi Hard catalog ( $E > 50$  GeV) and applying modern EBL absorption models.
- Require broad redshift coverage ( $0.009 < z < 1.11$ )
- Require homogeneous coverage across AGN classes



# AGN: High-quality spectra

## Particle identification



- Current instruments lack the energy resolution/sensitivity to differentiate between hadronic and leptonic models
- Improvements afforded by CTA will allow us to identify emission from both leptonic and hadronic particles

# AGN: Deep exposures (100h) of radio galaxies

- Cen A and M87 are both proposed for deep observations
  - Extract high-quality spectra
  - Search for extended emission
- M87: given its smaller extension, will be covered by one deep (100h) exposure
- Cen A: due to extension, 3 pointings are required (limited by FoV of LSTs).
  - ~50h per pointing
  - Allows us to cover southern radio lobe, as well as the kpc jets.

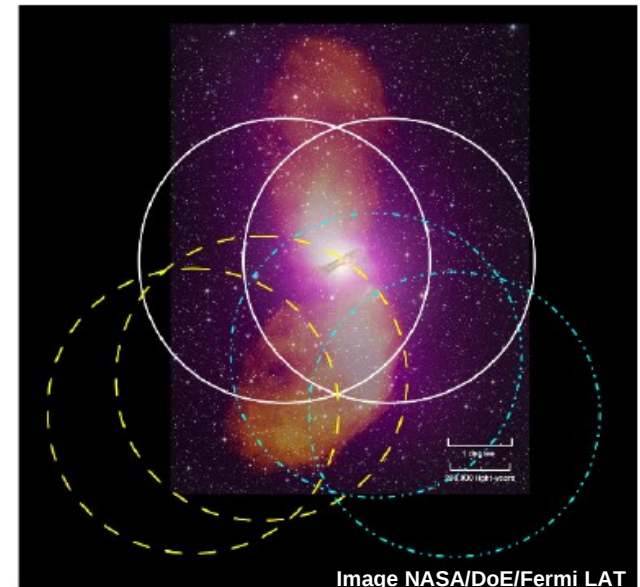
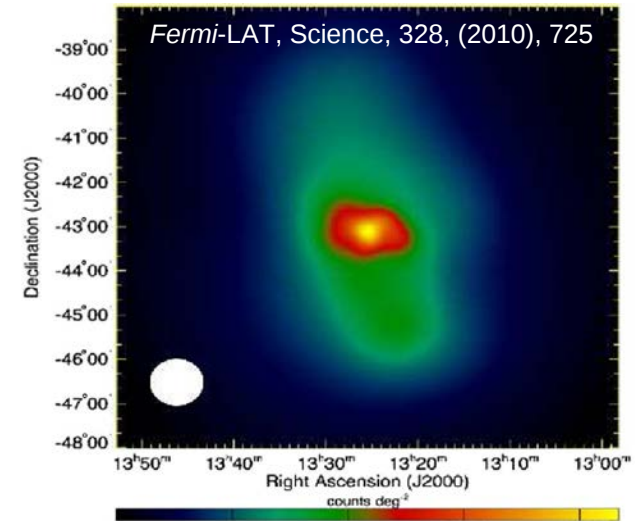
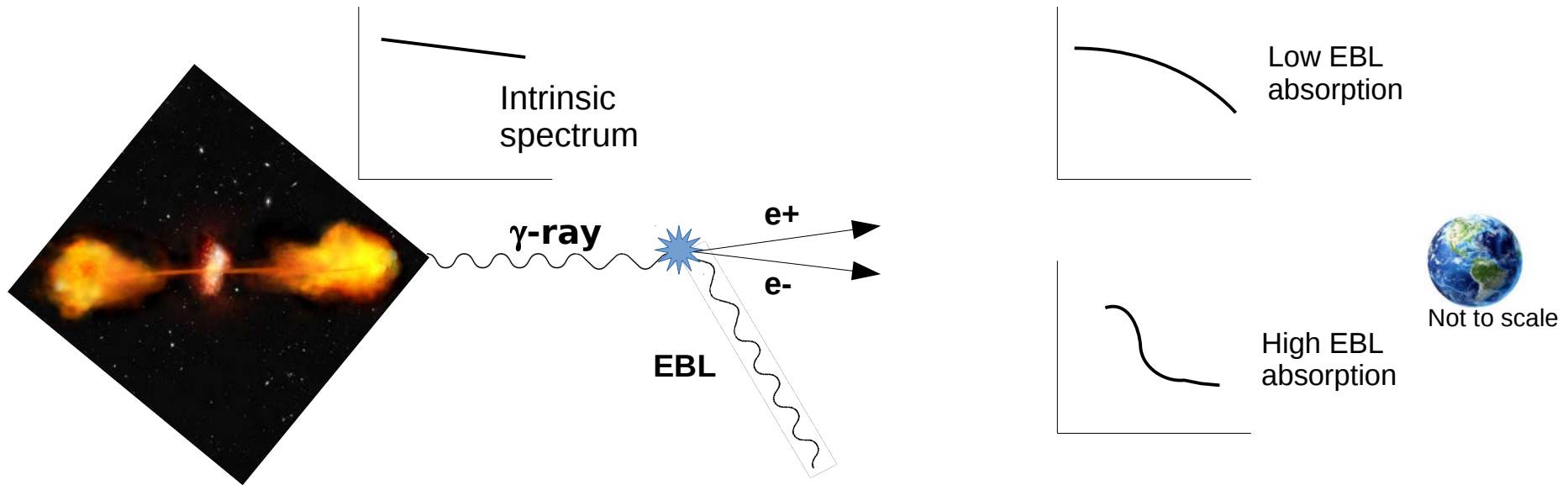


Image NASA/DoE/Fermi LAT  
Capella et al.



# AGN: Extragalactic background light

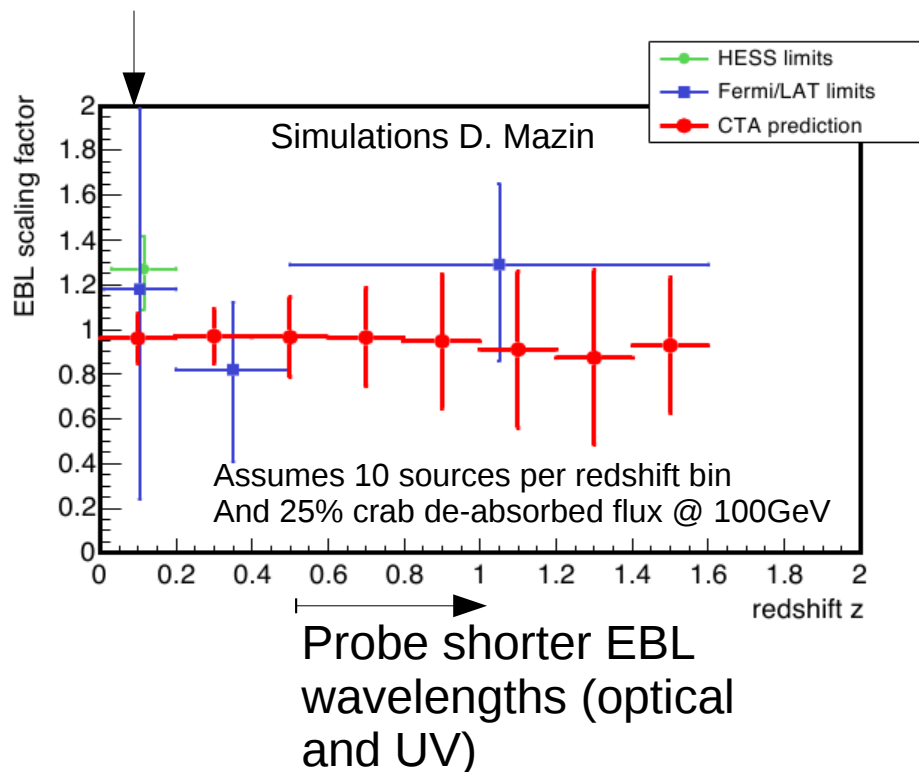


- $\gamma$ -rays interact with EBL photons to produce  $e^\pm$  pair, attenuating the observed  $\gamma$ -ray spectrum
  - Severity of effect is redshift, EBL strength and  $\gamma$ -ray energy dependent
- Use this process to investigate the strength of the EBL

# AGN: Extragalactic background light Potential



Primarily probe mid-IR EBL



- CTA's ability to simultaneously observe the GeV and TeV components of an AGN's flux allows us to disentangle intrinsic physical processes from external absorption features

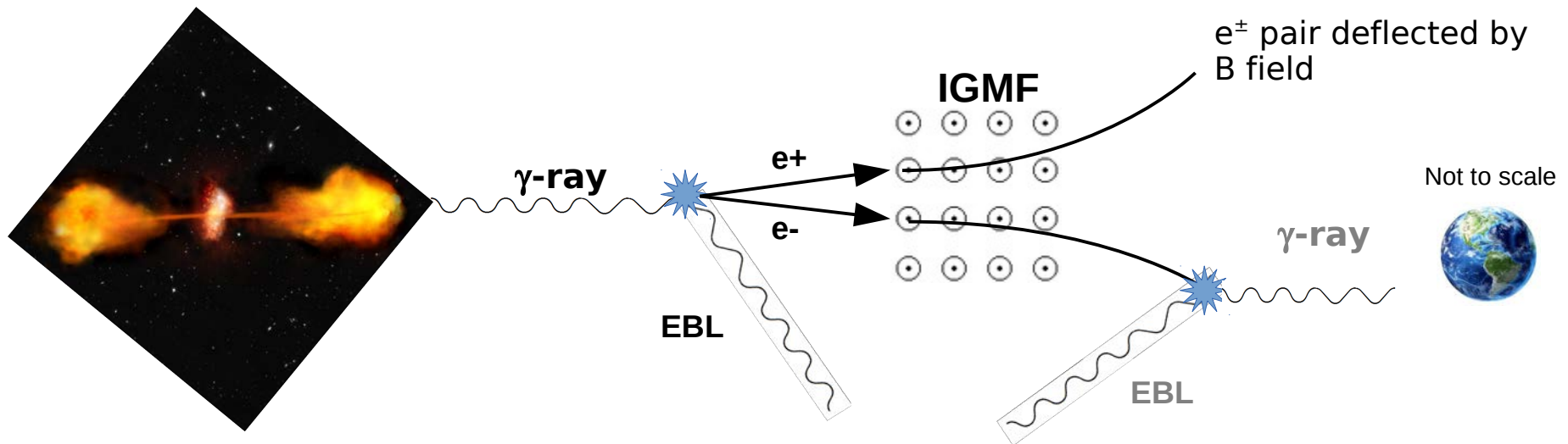
- CTA will observe AGN across a large range of redshift. Targets taken from:

- High-quality spectra program
- Flare monitoring program (for large  $z$ )

- CTA's EBL-related goals include:

- Measuring the far-IR to mid-UV EBL spectrum at  $z \sim 0$  with a 20-30% uncertainty
- Characterise the evolution of the EBL up to a redshift of  $z \sim 1$  (allows to probe galaxy evolution and Hubble's constant eg Biteau & Williams, 2015)

# AGN: Inter-Galactic Magnetic Field



- $\gamma$ -rays interact with EBL photons to produce  $e^\pm$  pair, which then interact with the IGMF before interacting with EBL photons through inverse compton to produce a  $\gamma$ -ray again

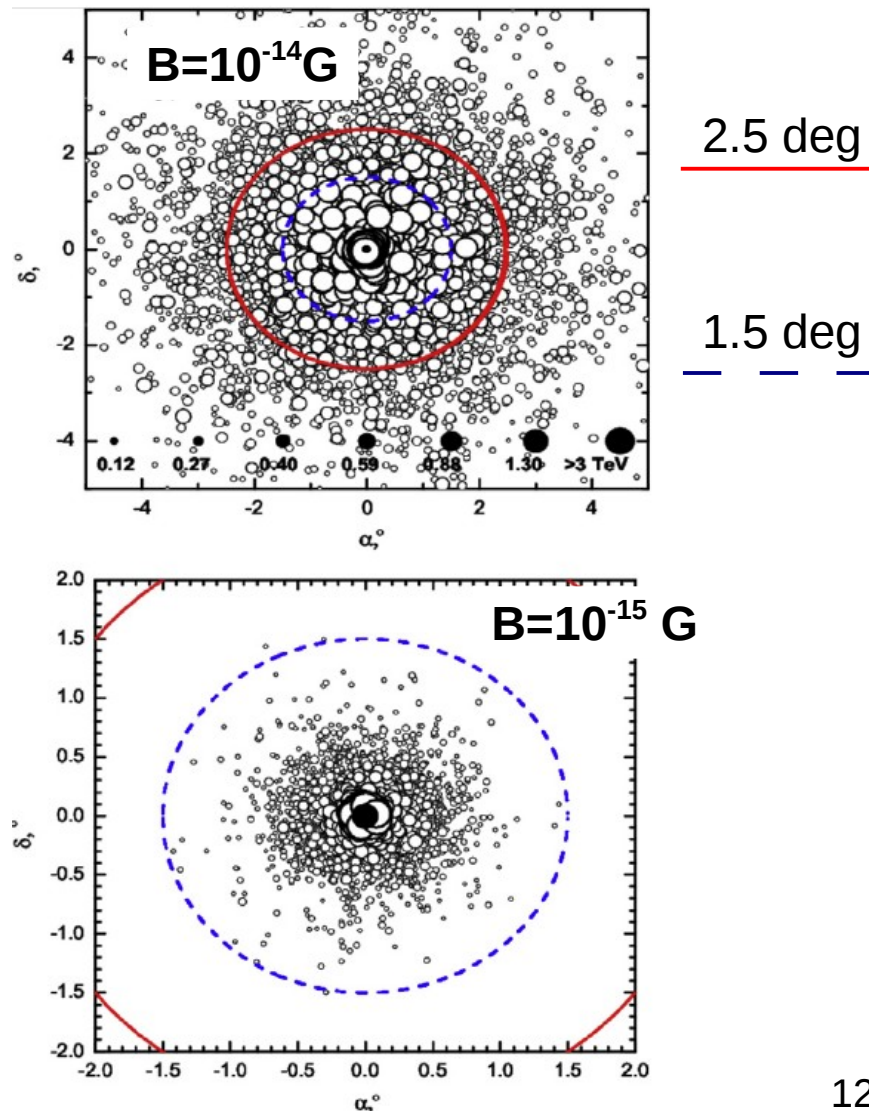
- Use this process to investigate the strength of the IGMF
  - Time-resolved spectra
  - Imaging analysis

# AGN: IGMF

## Imaging strategy

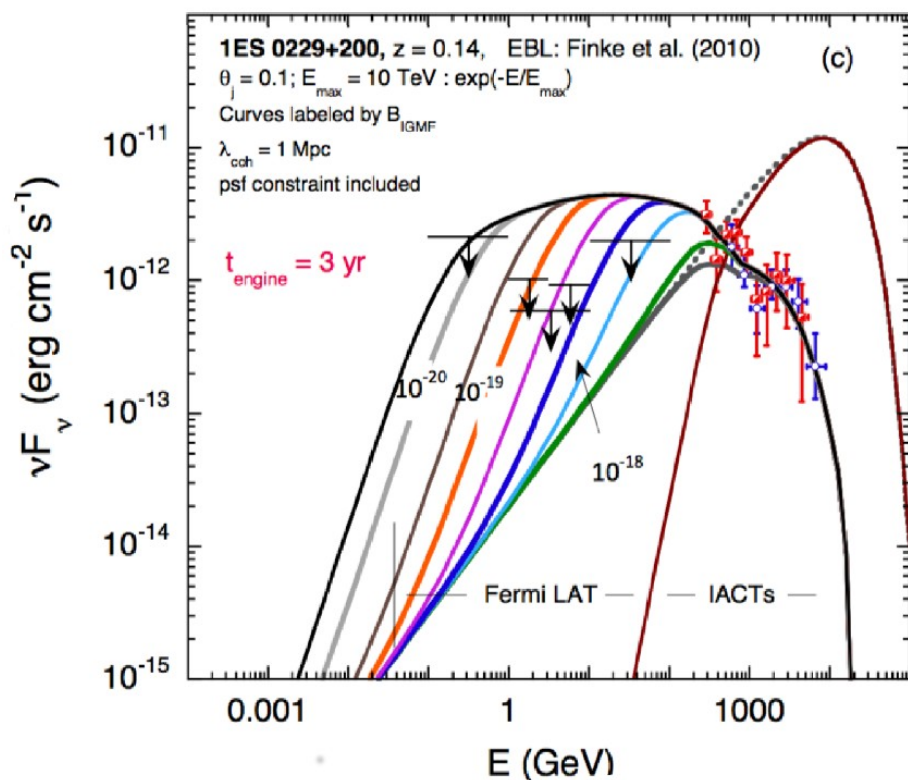
- If  $B > 10^{-16} \text{G}$ , the size of the deflection angle of the  $e^\pm$  pairs allows us to search for an extended  $\gamma$ -ray 'halo' emission around the AGN.
- CTA's angular resolution, combined with CTA's large field of view and sensitivity, will give us unprecedented ability to search for this emission.

Elyiv, Neronov & Semikoz, 2009, Phys.Rev.D, 80, 2





## Time-resolved spectra strategy



Dermer, Cavadini & Razzaque, 2011, ApJ, 733,L21

- For  $B < 10^{-16} \text{G}$ : utilise the temporal properties of the magnetically driven cascade by searching for delayed signals at lower  $\gamma$ -ray energies.

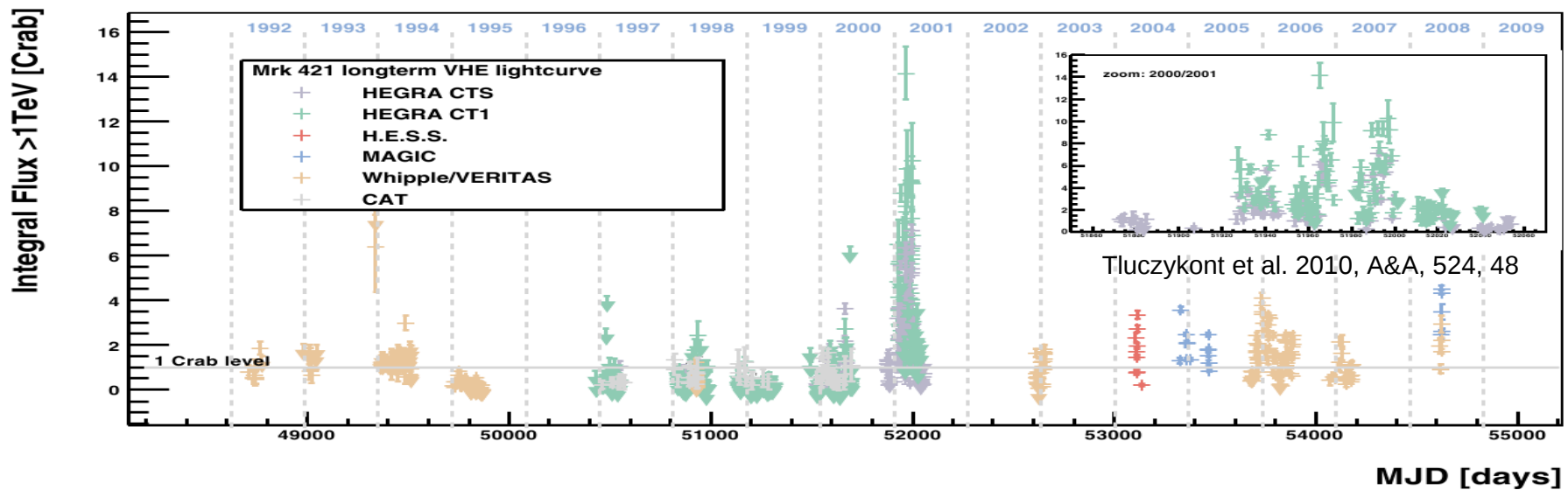
- CTA's sensitivity allows us to disentangle temporally-dependent spectral components from constant ones.

# AGN: Long term monitoring Motivation

- Long term monitoring allows us to study:

- $\gamma$ -ray properties in quiescence
- Probability of flaring states
- (Quasi-)periodic oscillations
- Disk-jet connection

- Observing known VHE emitters irrespective of activity state allows for an unbiased duty-cycle.



# AGN: Long term monitoring Strategy



- Target prominent VHE sources across AGN class spectrum

- ~30 minutes observation each week source is visible
- Utilise full array
- $7\sigma$  detection of all sources, sufficient for spectral measurements
- For bright sources, will be able to extract spectra on shorter timescales

- UHBL

- 1ES0229+200, 1ES1426+426 & 1ES1101-232

- HBL

- Mrk 421, Mrk 501 & PKS 2155-304

- IBL

- 1ES1011+496, 3C66A & W Comae

- LBL

- AP Lib, BL Lacertae

- FSRQ

- PKS 1510-089 & PKS 1222+216

- Radio Galaxies

- M87 & NGC1275

# AGN: Flare monitoring Strategy

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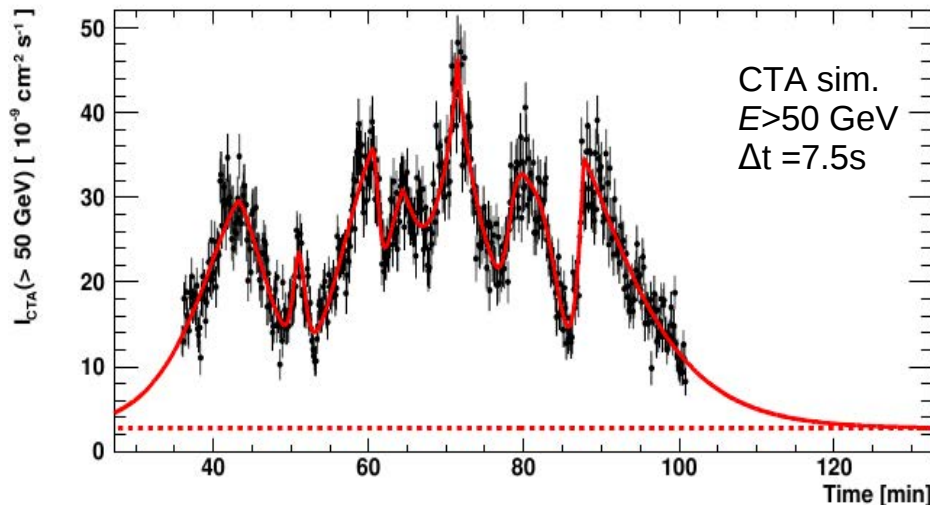
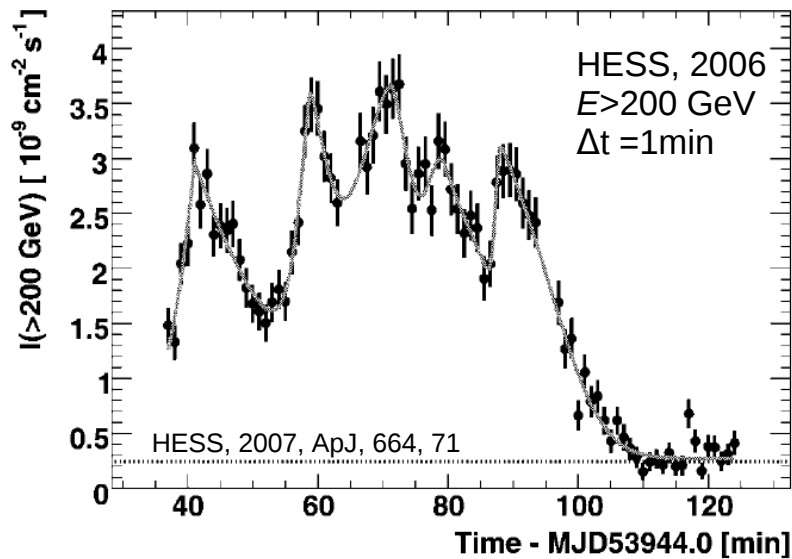


- 2 complimentary approaches to catching flares
  - External triggers from eg. *Fermi-LAT*, HAWC, LHAASO or future instruments eg *VSOM*, *ASTROGAM*, *ATHENA*, LSST, SKA, GAMMA400
  - Internal triggers from CTA subarray snapshots of  $\sim 80$  AGN (both known **and** potential VHE emitters).
- Snapshot program will use subarrays of CTA to take short exposure of  $\sim 80$  AGN at  $\sim 20\%$  crab flux sensitivity
  - Both known **and** potential VHE emitters
  - FSRQs through to UHBLs, *Fermi-LAT* detected radio galaxies & NLSy1s
- $\sim 20$  sources per week per site,  $\sim 1$  hr per night total per site
  - Assuming flaring probability of  $\sim 1\%$ , based on current duty cycle knowledge, expect around 20 flares per year per site



# AGN: Flare monitoring

## Expected Results

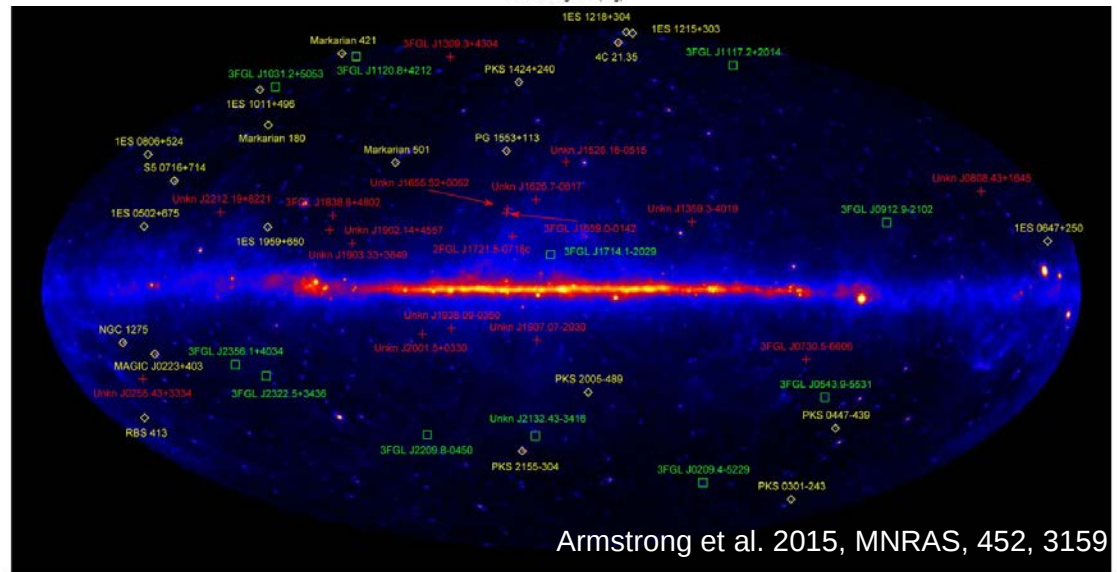
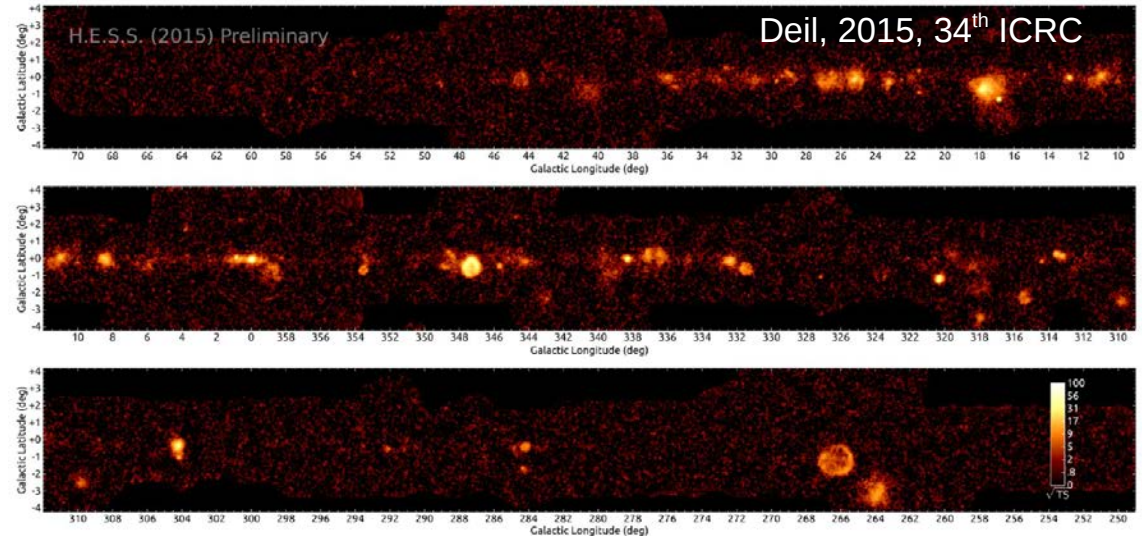


- Consider PKS 2155's 2006 flare
  - Power-law extrapolation of the HESS power spectrum, assuming red-noise at high frequencies
- Large effective area and energy range allows binning on timescales of  $\sim 7$ s!
- Allows for smaller variability timescales to be observed.
- Allows for better definition of flare rise and fall timescales.

**CTA's sensitivity allows for unprecedented temporal resolution**

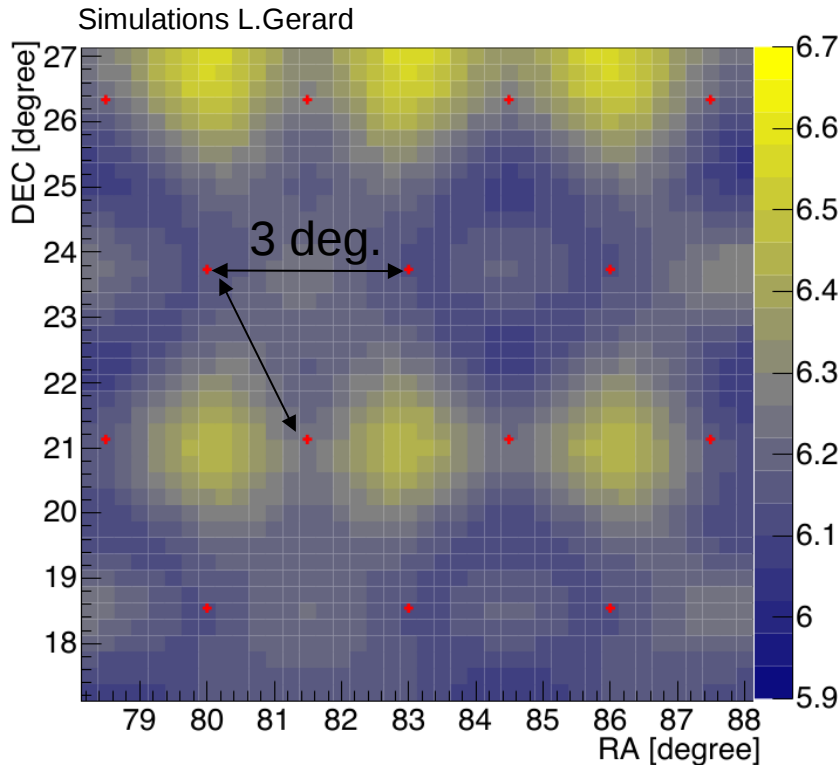
# Extragalactic survey

- Previous surveys of the  $\gamma$ -ray sky have yielded valuable insights.
- A 'blind' extragalactic survey is a powerful tool.
  - Unbiased catalog of VHE sources
  - Discovery of new source types
  - Discovery of dark sources with no astrophysical counterpart
  - Serendipitous discovery of transients
  - Measure the diffuse emission ( $E > 500$  GeV)



Armstrong et al. 2015, MNRAS, 452, 3159

# Extragalactic survey: Strategy

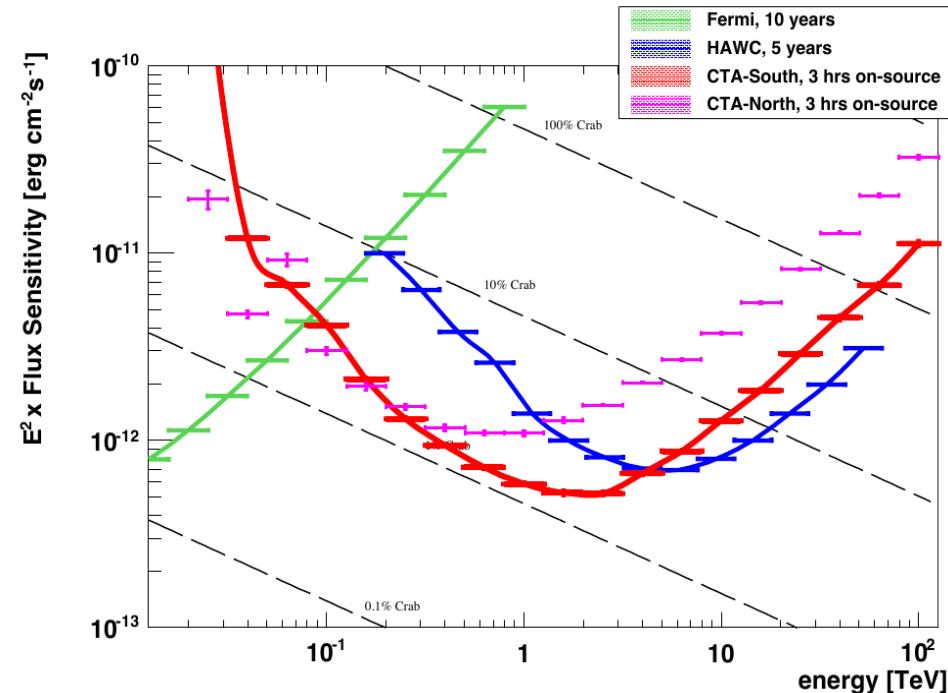
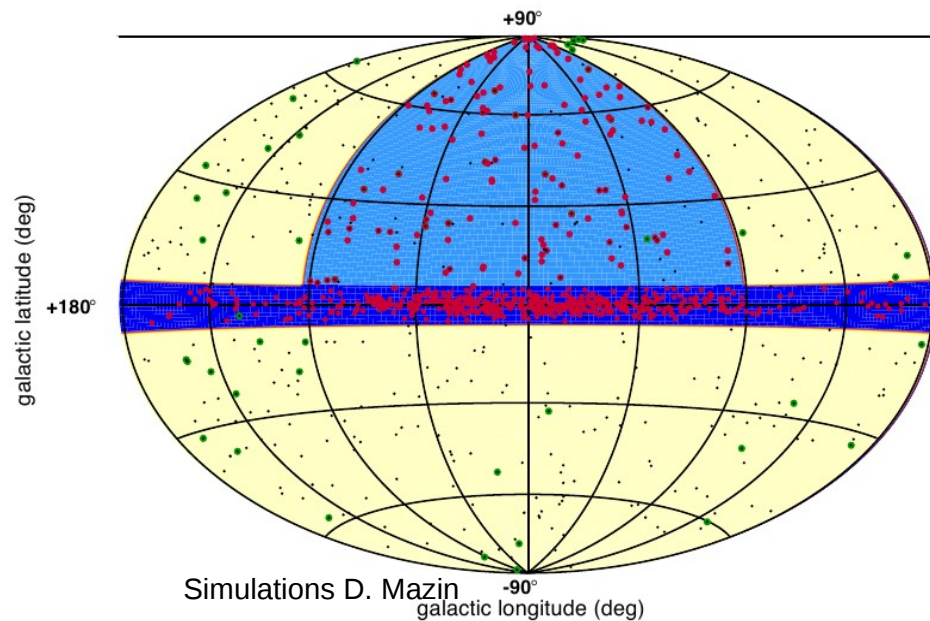


- CTA will conduct a blind survey of 25%(10,000 deg<sup>2</sup>) of the extragalactic sky
  - 1000h taken over ~3 yrs
  - Observe each FoV with several pointings (3 deg separation)
  - Uniform exposure ~6mCrab
  
- Divergent pointing?
  - Assuming FoV~200 deg<sup>2</sup>
    - Factor 2 degradation in angular/energy resolution
    - Factor 1.5 gain in sensitivity
    - Beneficial for transients.

	IRF	Time per pointing (h)	Integral sensitivity $S \pm \Delta S$
South	2a-noLST	0.55	$5.9 \pm 0.5$
North	2NN	1.25	$6.6 \pm 0.6$

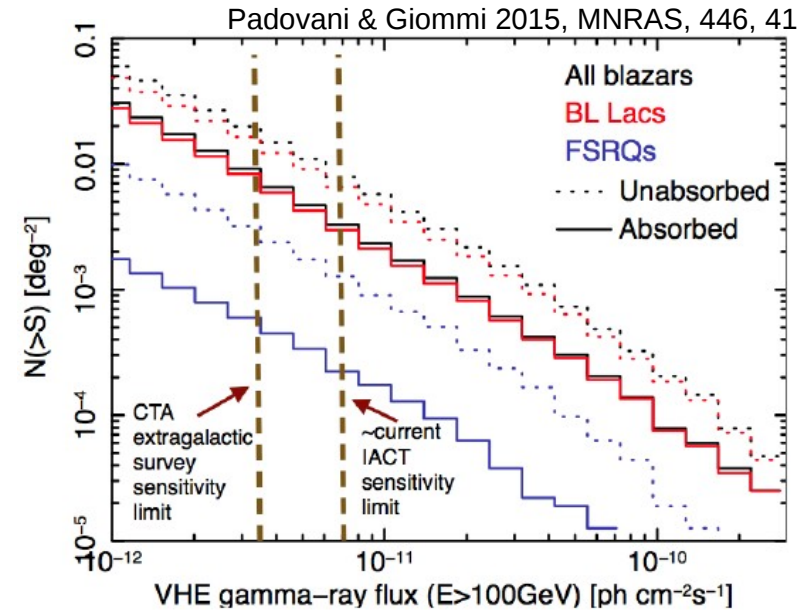
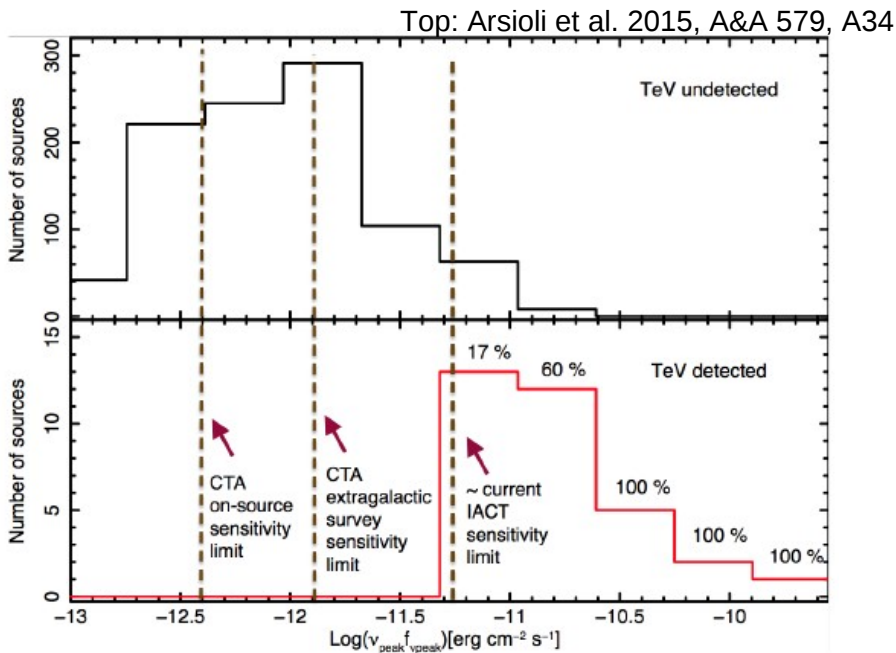
# Extragalactic survey: Expected results

- At worse: expect 30-40 detections based upon 1FHL spectra
- At best: expect up to  $\sim 150$  detections based on AllWISE catalog with IR/X-ray cuts
- In general: first unbiased view of  $0.1 < E_\gamma < 10$  TeV extragalactic sky

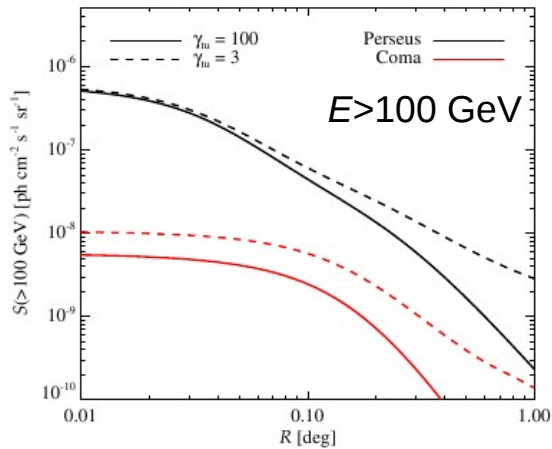




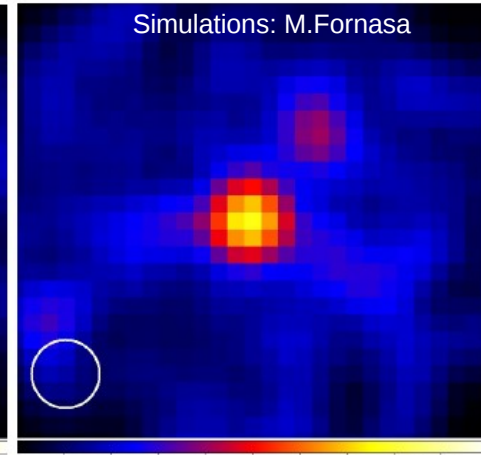
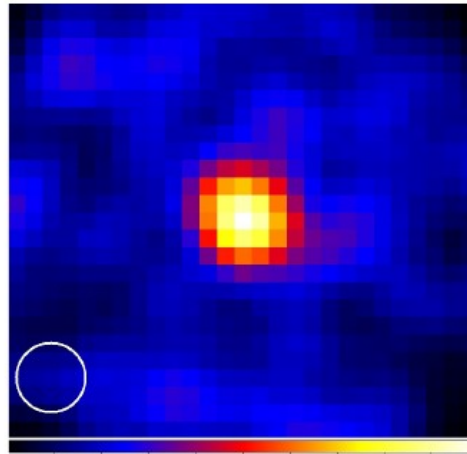
# Extragalactic survey: Discovery Potential



- Unbiased survey allows us to measure the luminosity function of blazars (the so-called log N – log S distribution).
  - Fundamental to understanding the main physics drivers of the  $\gamma$ -ray emission and how they evolve with time
  - Crucial to determining the total  $\gamma$ -ray diffuse background



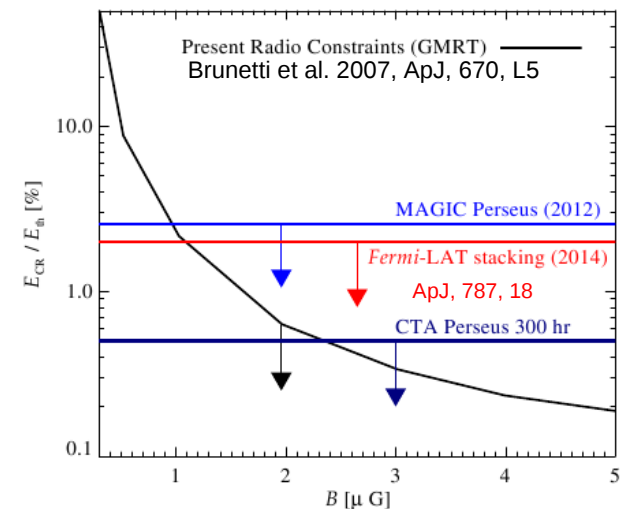
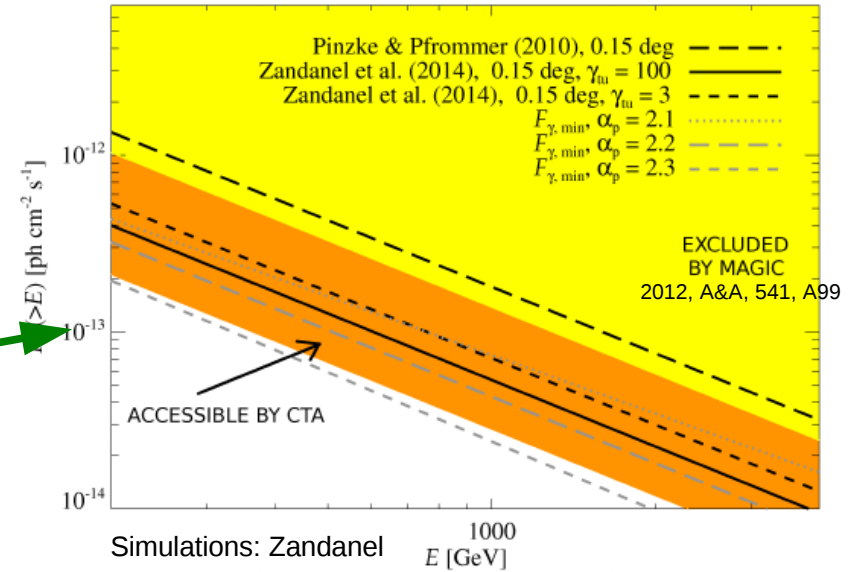
Zandanel et al. 2014, MNRAS, 438, 124



- CR protons accelerated and contained within cluster during its lifetime → do not expect properties to change significantly between different clusters with similar masses.
- Deep ( $\sim 300\text{h}$ ) observation of the Perseus cluster
  - Target selection based on distance, mass & size of the cluster, in conjunction with the strength of its diffuse radio emission and the results of hydrodynamical simulations
- Additionally, we get deep exposures of NGC 1275 and IC310

# Galaxy Clusters: Expected Results

- Expect a factor of 5 improvement on current flux limits of diffuse VHE emission from clusters
- If no diffuse emission is observed, we can
  - Constrain a hadronic origin for the radio halo
  - Constrain the CR/thermal ratio for a range of B-fields
- If diffuse emission is observed, we will perform spatial and spectral studies to investigate CR propagation.



- Observations in the early phase of operation will be used to 'fine tune' CTA's extragalactic observing program
- The improvement in telescope performance afforded by CTA will:
  - Give us an unparalleled view of AGN with unprecedented spectral and temporal resolution
  - Allow us to perform a survey of the extragalactic sky with unprecedented sensitivity in the  $\sim 100\text{GeV}$  to  $\sim 10\text{ TeV}$  energy range
  - Observe/constrain cosmic ray induced diffuse emission in galaxy clusters
- Flare alerts to the community, combined with MWL and MM coverage will strengthen the science return of CTA's extragalactic observing program
- Since CTA will cover observing program which require large amounts of observing time, there is still plenty of AGN science to be done as a guest observer!



# Back-up

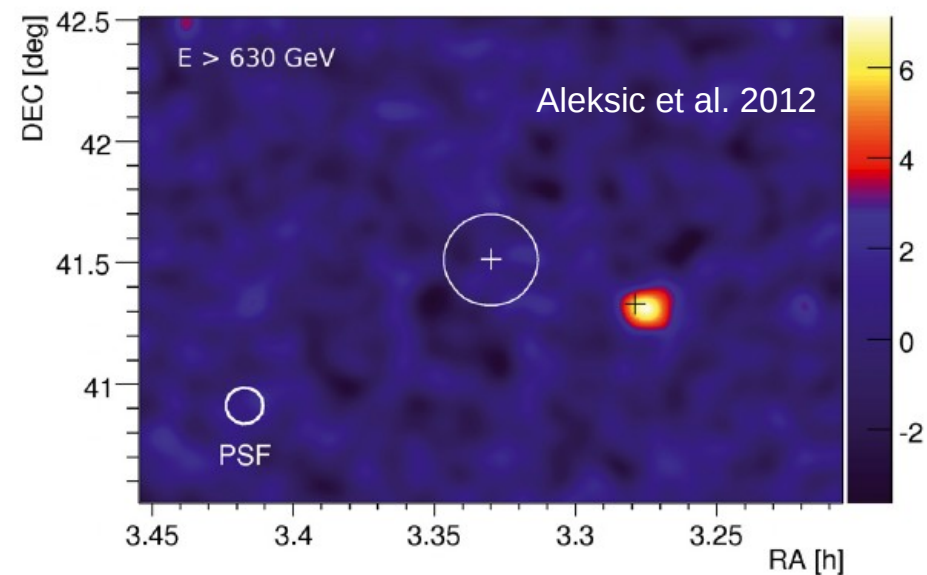
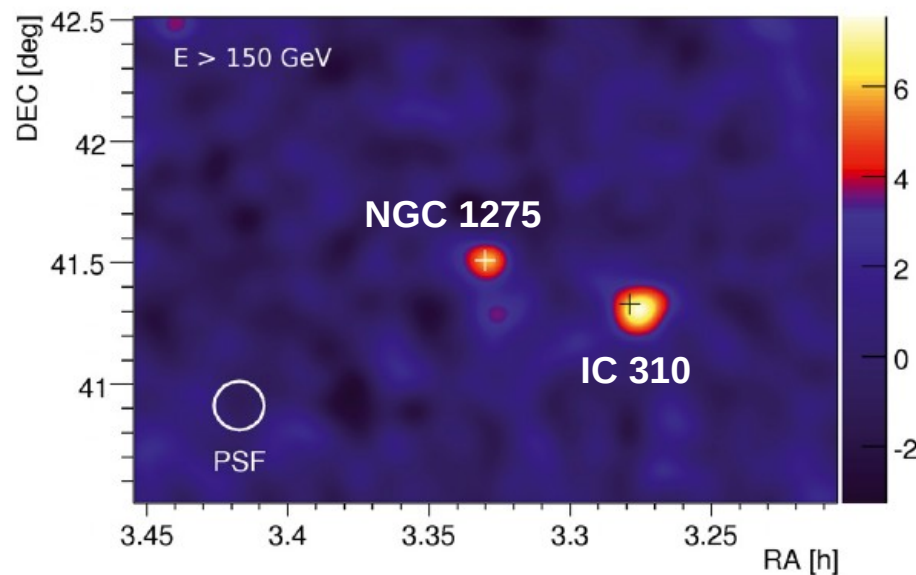
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# Galaxy Clusters:

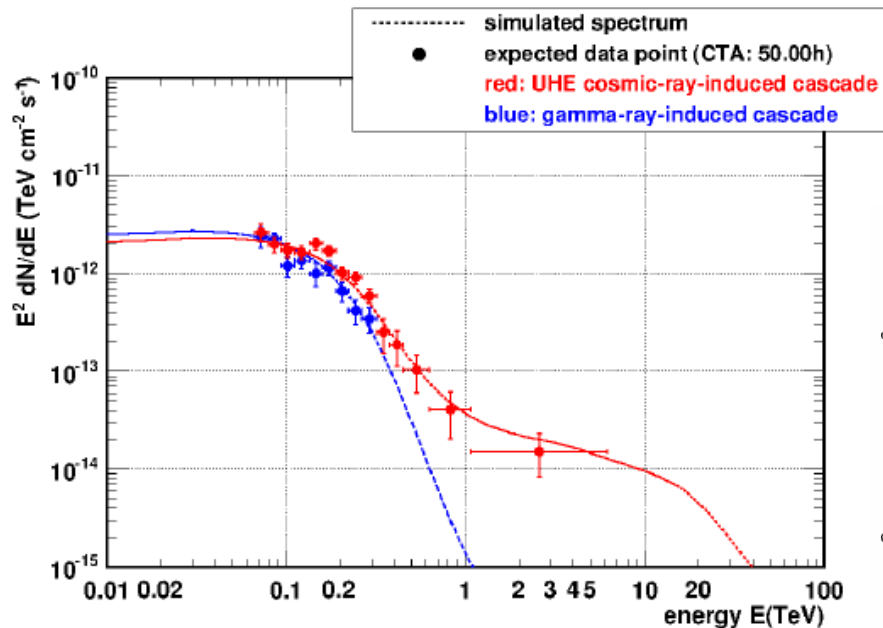
## Perseus cluster AGN sources

- IC310 is 0.6 degrees from Perseus cluster center thus is spatially removed from where we expect the diffuse emission
- NGC1275 is at the center. However:
  - Its point like
  - Spectrally-soft (index of -4)
  - Large amount of flux variability

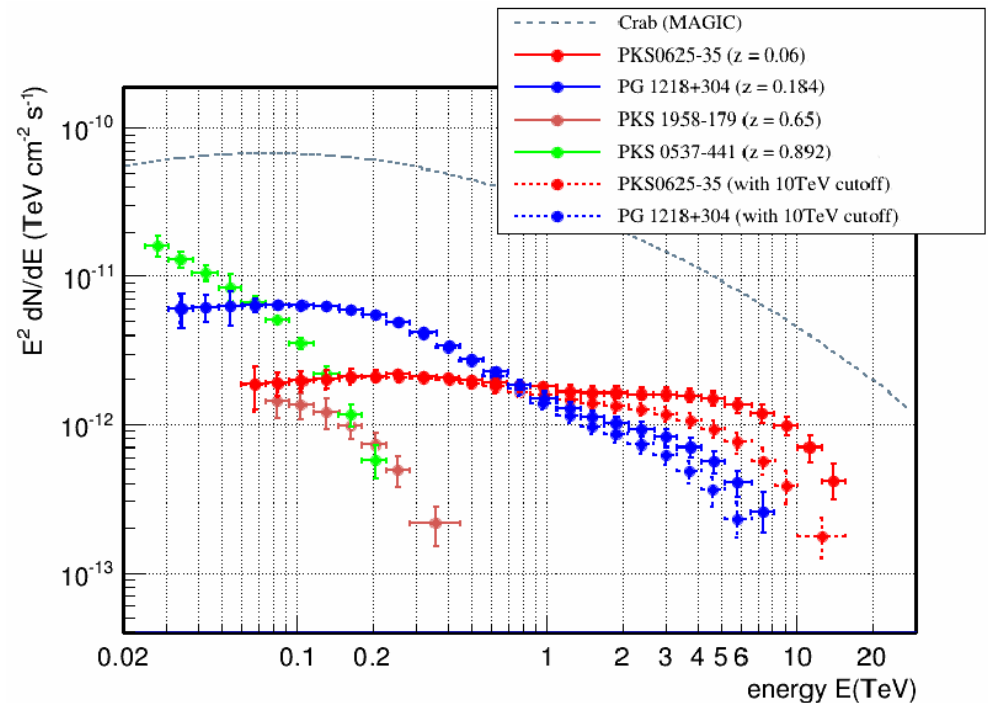


# AGN: High-quality spectra other signatures?

## • UHECR signature?



## • Cut-offs in the spectrum?



# AGN: Flare monitoring

## Motivation

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- Sampling VHE fluxes below the light-crossing timescale of the SMBH affords valuable insights into the inner workings of AGN.
- To date, observations of a few extreme flare events have:
  - Highlighted the severe limitations of standard emission models (eg. HESS observations of PKS 2155-304)
  - Suggested more sophisticated models (eg. MAGIC observations of IC310)
  - Suggested multi-zone emission models (eg. *Fermi-LAT* observations of PKS 1510-089)
- Beyond understanding the intrinsic properties of AGN, flares are needed to study the EBL and IGMF at redshift  $> 0.5$

# AGN: Extragalactic background light

