

# Prospects for Studies of the local Universe with CTA

#### B. Rudak (CAMK Warszawa)

#### on behalf of the CTA Consortium

with special input from

E. Ona-Wilhelmi and R. de los Reyes (MPIfK Heidelberg)

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# OUTLINE

What is CTA?

Performance capabilities

Physics goals

Summary

## The Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA): the future in VHE gamma-ray astronomy

The CTA project is an initiative to build the next generation ground-based very high energy gamma-ray instrument

http://www.cta-observatory.org



### **CTA and Lebedev Physical Institute**

The Nobel Prize in Physics 1958 "for the discovery and the interpretation of the Cherenkov effect".





# The Cherenkov Telescope Array: open observatory

"Design concepts for CTA", 2011, ExA, 32, 193

Core array many ~12m telescopes ~6-8° FoV ~mCrab sensitivity (100 GeV-10 TeV)  $A_{eff} \sim 1 \text{ km}^2$ 

> High-energy section many ~3.5-7 m telescopes large FoV (8-10°)  $A_{eff} \sim 5-10 \text{ km}^2$  at multi-TeV energies

Low-energy section few 23m telescopes ~4-5° FoV ~ 10 GeV Eth

# Possible CTA configuration

Selection of different possible sub-arrays (here three examples)







An open observatory with two sites for all-sky coverage – Northern Array & Southern Array - operated by one consortium



### Tentative timeline towards the CTA observatory

	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15
Array layout									
Telescope design			Des						
Component prototypes				9n					
Telescope prototype					Pro	Dtotype			
Array construction								Arra	
Partial operation									,

#### The CTA world map





# Main characteristics of CTA

<u>High sensitivity</u> - 4 orders of magn. dynamic range in flux (max,min)

Wide spectral range - from 50 GeV to 100s of TeV

Angular resolution up to 0.02 deg, 10-20" source localization

Large field of view - survey and serendipitous discoveries of AGN, GRB, other

Surveying capabilities – full-sky survey at O(1%) Crab in ~ 1 year

Monitoring capabilities - possible use of sub-arrays for monitoring e.g. AGN

#### In 1990 – one confirmed VHE source !

In 2011 – 75 Galactic sources, 47 extragalactic (from the TeVCat catalog, July 2011)



### Expectations for CTA: ~1000 sources



# CTA science impact



- Cosmic rays: origin and they impact in the Universe:
  - Particle accelerators: <u>PSRs</u>, PWN, SNRs and γ-ray binaries.
  - Effects on the environment: from massive SFR to starburst galaxies.
- Nature of black hole particle accelerators:
  - AGN, blazars and radio galaxies.
  - EBL, galaxy clusters, GRBs.
- Dark matter search and physics beyond the standard model:
  - Dark matter and their annihilation signatures
  - Lorentz invariance tests
  - New observational signatures that might change our understanding of the Universe.

## Pulsars physics goals with CTA

- Pulsed VHE emission from young pulsars
- Pulsed VHE emission from millisecond pulsars
- Unpulsed VHE emission from Globular Clusters

### **PWNe physics goals**

- Maximum/minimum resolvable size
- Electron cooling effects
- Composite SNRs
- Population studies
- Energy & morphology modelling









, Pulsars at Very-High Energies: Crab (PSR J0534+2200)

- Fermi 1<sup>st</sup> <u>γ-ray</u> pulsar catalog (2010): Exponential cut-off
- VERITAS Crab pulsar (2011): broken-power law



#### Crab Pulsar, P1+P2



#### Fermi LAT : ~ 15 Globular Clusters

#### 47 Tucanae



FIG. 2: Spectral energy distribution  $(E^2 dN_{\gamma}/dE)$  of the Fermi source seen toward 47 Tuc. The solid line shows the fit of an exponentially cut-off power law obtained for



FIG. 1: Fermi LAT gamma-ray image (200 MeV to 10 GeV) of a  $1.5^\circ \times 1.5^\circ$  region centered on the position of 47 Tuc. The map was adaptively smoothed by imposing



Figure 2. *Fermi*/LAT spectrum of Terzan 5. The solid line is the best-fit exponential cutoff power-law model obtained by *gtlike*. The dotted line is the best-fit simple power-law model. The error bars are statistical only.



Terzan 5



Cheng et al. 2010



1

10

100

energy E(TeV)

10<sup>-18</sup>

10-14

0.01

0.1

- Best candidates: Ter 5 and 47 Tuc
- Models from Venter et al 09 and Bednarek et al 07

### Ter 5 for 100 mpsr



# **Cooling Effects in PWN**

- HESS J1825-137 used as prototype (with configuration B and E)
- Simulation of surface brightness and spectral index distribution: wedges



We can also simulate the capability of CTA to distinguish different spectral indices for the same surface brightness distribution. In 20 hours of observation it is possible to distinguish among scenarios of synchrotron cooling or adiabatic cooling (constant spectral index).



Figure 11: 20 hours of observations using configuration E. The two simulated cases, synchrotron or adiabatic cooling show a clear distinguishable spectral index distribution

# **Population Studies of PWN**

- G21.5-0.5, HESS J1356-654 & Kes 75 are used as prototype
- Horizon of detectability: maximum distance to obtain  $\sigma$ =5
- Using a model of the Galactic source distribution -> fraction of PWNe detectable f<sub>pwn</sub>=(0.4-0.8)
- If they shine for 40 kyrs: N<sub>pwn</sub>~800 f<sub>pwn</sub> (τ<sub>pwn</sub>/40 kyr)(ν<sub>psr</sub>/2)~(300-600)



Gamma-ray signatures of CR acceleration, propagation and confinement

SNRs and Molecular Clouds:

- better quality spectral studies (cut-offs, breaks, etc)
- population studies

Several shell-type supernova remnants have been already resolved as TeV gamma-ray shells: direct proof of shock acceleration of particles to hundreds of TeV energies at supernova remnant shocks





Figure 3: Left: simulated distribution of Galactic core-collapse SNRs. The Sun and the Galactic center are depicted by the red cross and the black dot, respectively. Middle: Fraction of SNRs visible with zenith angle  $< 45^{\circ}$ , for a ground-based instrument located at the same latitude as the H.E.S.S. experiment, as a function of distance from Earth (dashed line). Configurations B (in black), D (in red) and I (in blue), for an observing time of 20 h, and for three known VHE-emitting SNRs: Vela Junior (circles), RCW 86 (downward triangles) and RX J1713.7-3946 (upward triangles). Open symbols refer to the horizon of detectability, filled symbols to the horizons of resolvability. Right: same as middle, except that the original CTA PSF from the configuration files has been improved by a factor of 2.

## Studies of Extragalactic Background Light with CTA





Raue & Mazin 2010

CTA will allow for the observation of the unabsorbed part of the spectrum, together with the signature of attenuation at higher energies



#### Simulated VHE spectra of blazars for two EBL models



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# Active Galactic Nuclei with CTA

Credit: NASA/CXC/CfA/R. Kraft et al. : ASPERA

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# AGN detected at VHE (status of November 2011) according to the TeVCAT catalog

Zech et al. 2012



### 48 objects (40% of currently detected VHE sources)

### Predicted AGN detections with CTA based on extrapolations of Fermi-LAT spectra for a maximum observation time of 50 hr per source



### Cen A and M87 establish radio galaxies as a new class of VHE emitters



Cen A





## Basic scenarios for SED modeling



(adapted from De Lotto, 2009)

# PKS 2155-304 in quiescent state



Various hadronic and leptonic models can often fit present available spectra of HBL



Figure 16: Simulated integral flux of PKS 2155-304 above 50 GeV as CTA would monitor it. This simulation relies on an extension of the red noise behavior to high frequencies, generating the short time scale structures (second and fourth peaks). The data are binned in 7.5 seconds intervals.

# Dark Matter and Fundamental Physics

CTA prospects to search for CDM particles signatures:

- in dwarf satellite galaxies of the Galaxy
- around the Galactic Center
- in clusters of galaxies

CTA prospects to constrain high energy violations of Lorentz Invariance relative to current limits (Fermi).









Prompt GRB light curves and AGN light curves are used to determine the [lower limit of] Quantum Gravity scale by detection of the [lack of] delay between the arrival times of photons at different energies

The Lorentz invariance violating (LIV) part in the dependence of the photon momentum on its energy

$$c^2 p^2 = E^2 \left[ 1 \pm \xi_1 (E/E_{\rm Pl}) \pm \xi_2 (E/E_{\rm Pl})^2 \pm \ldots \right]$$

$$\Delta t \simeq \left(\frac{\Delta E}{\xi_{\alpha} E_{\rm Pl}}\right)^{\alpha} \frac{L}{c}$$

#### Fermi LAT and GBM light curves of GRB 090510

Current lower limit on the QG energy scale due to possible linear dependence of the speed of light on photon energy:

$$E_{QG,1} = \xi_1 E_{Planck}$$
$$\xi_1 > 1.2$$

To test quadratic or higher order dependencies the sensitivity of CTA will be needed



### **Optical intensity interferometer**



Figure 1: Principle of a multi-element stellar intensity interferometer. Several telescopes observe the same source, simultaneously recording its rapidly fluctuating optical light intensity  $I_n(t)$ . Cross correlations of the intensity fluctuations are measured between different pairs of telescopes:  $\langle I_1(t)I_2(t)\rangle$ ,  $\langle I_1(t)I_3(t)\rangle$ ,  $\langle I_1(t)I_4(t)\rangle$ ,  $\langle I_2(t)I_3(t)\rangle$ ,  $\langle I_2(t)I_4(t)\rangle$ , etc. These yield a measure of the second-order spatial coherence of light, from which an image of the source can be deduced, with an angular resolution corresponding to the optical diffraction over the projected baseline distance between each pair of telescopes.

#### Dravins et al. 2012

Mapping of stellar surface structures, may be realised with CTA, using a technique known as intensity interferometry.



Objects that could be studied using CTA as an intensity interferometer. Top row: Stellar shapes and surfaces affected by rapid rotation; Middle row: Disks and winds of hot gas around active stars; Bottom row:4 Stellar surroundings such as shells, obscuring clouds, and jets.

# Summary

CTA will supersede all presently operating IACT arrays in terms of performance characteristics

Core science topics are defined and substantial progress is expected in studies of Galactic and extragalactic VHE-related phenomena

Discovery potentials of CTA are huge so be prepared for discoveries of *known* unknowns and *unknown* unknowns

# Спасибо за ваше внимание