Results from the HESS Array of IACTs

TrevorFest, October 2013







Results from the HESS Array of IACTs





The H.E.S.S. Observatory



H.E.S.S. I

- 4 telescope system in Namibia
- Field of view 5°
- energy threshold ~200 GeV
- energy resolution ~15%
- angular resolution ~0.1o
- High sensitivity (5σ): 1% Crab in 25h

H.E.S.S. II

- H.E.S.S. I + single large telescope
- CT5

•	mirror area	600 m ²
	minute area	000 111

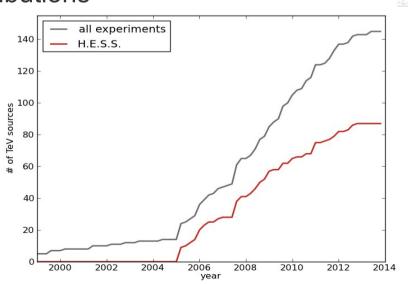
- Field of view 3.2°
- energy threshold O(30 GeV)





H.E.S.S.: 10 years operation in 2012

- Taken 9415 hours of data
 - with 4234 h along the Galactic plane (latitude < 10°) and
 - 5181 h in extragalactic space (latitude > 10°)
- Discovered over ~90 new VHE gamma ray sources (according to TeVCat)
 - ~60 Galactic objects
 - ~30 extra-galactic sources
- Published over 100 scientific papers in reviewed journals, plus numerous conference contributions
- Listed among the 10 most influential astronomical instruments

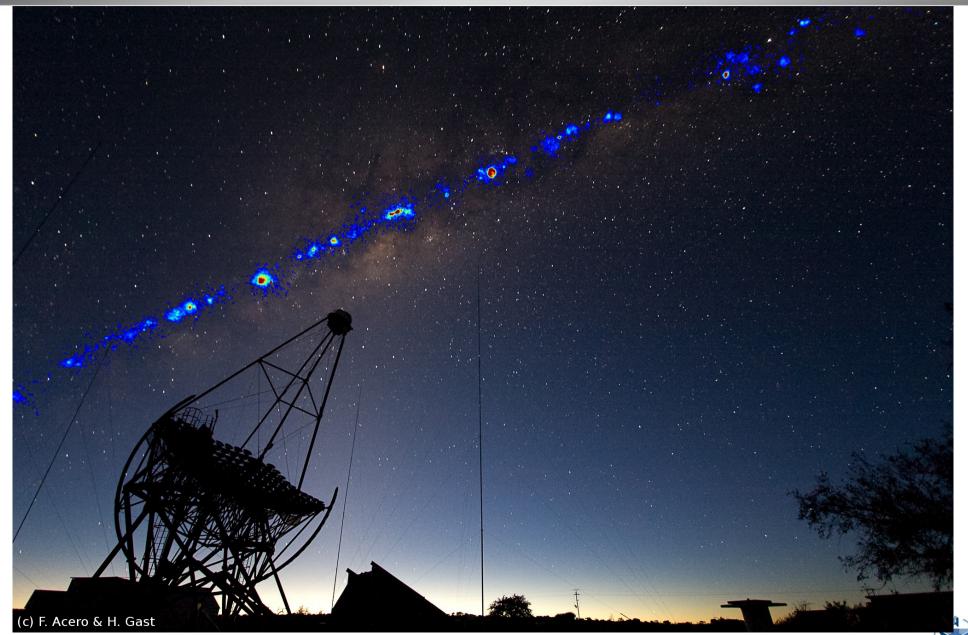








Most fruitful observations: H.E.S.S. Galactic Plane Scan





TrevorFest, April 2013 Results from HESS

H.E.S.S. GPS Observations

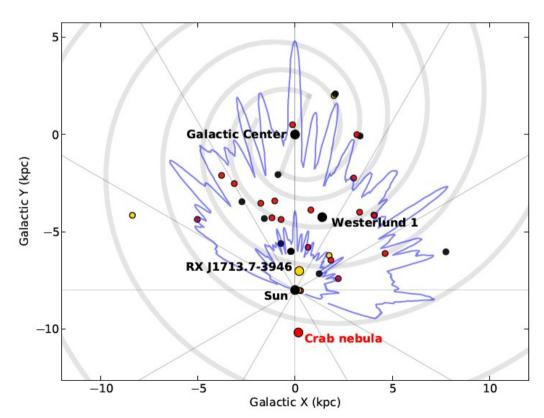
2800 hours of high-quality data, taken in the years 2004 to 2013.

Longitude I = 250 to 65 degrees, latitude |b| < 3.5 degrees

• Sensitivity for point-like sources at the 2% Crab level or better

Populations:

SNR, PWN, unidentified sources, binaries, one extreme BL Lac, open star cluster, globular cluster, ...



Blue lines: H.E.S.S. horizons for 1% and 10% Crab

Dots:

H.E.S.S. Galactic sources

Red: PWNe Yellow: SNRs

Black: other sources

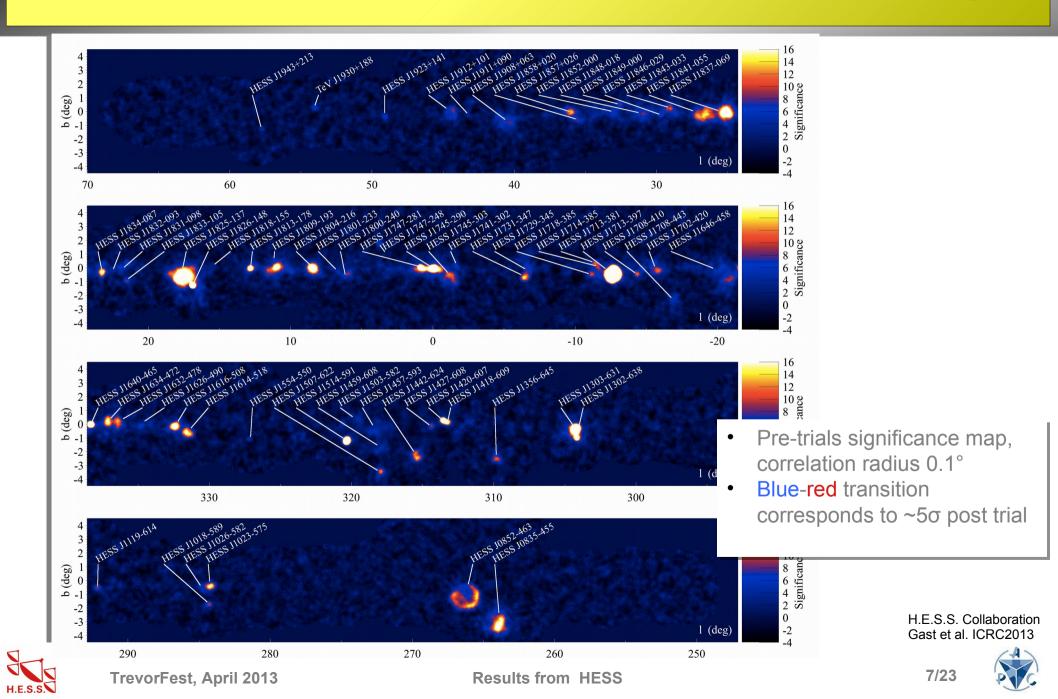
H.E.S.S. Collaboration Gast et al. ICRC2013



TrevorFest, April 2013

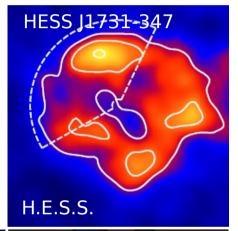
Results from HESS

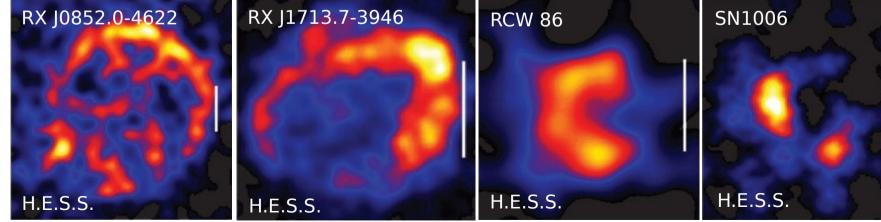
H.E.S.S. GPS maps



H.E.S.S. SNR discoveries

- Young Shell type SNR
 - RX J1713.7-3946, SN 1006, Vela Jr, HESS J1731-347, RCW 86
- Middle aged SNR interacting with molecular clouds:
 - W51C, W49B, W28









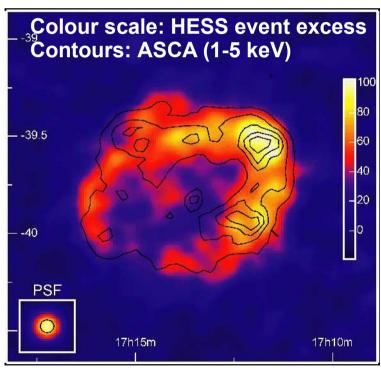
Zooms on a couple of SNRs

RX J1713.7-3946

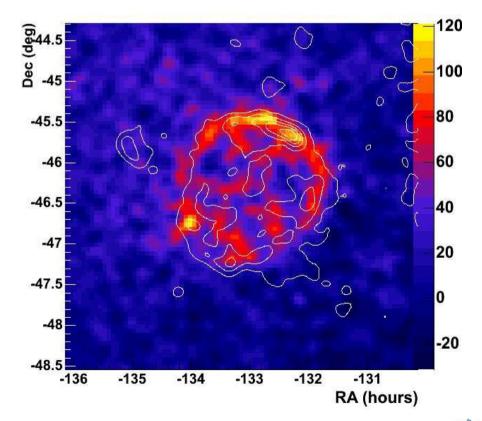
First-ever resolved γ-ray source Strong correlation with X-rays: ~80%

RX J0852.0-4622 (Vela jr)

Thin shell resolved with HESS Correlation with X-rays: ~65% + Correlation with Radio



Angular resolution < 0.1°

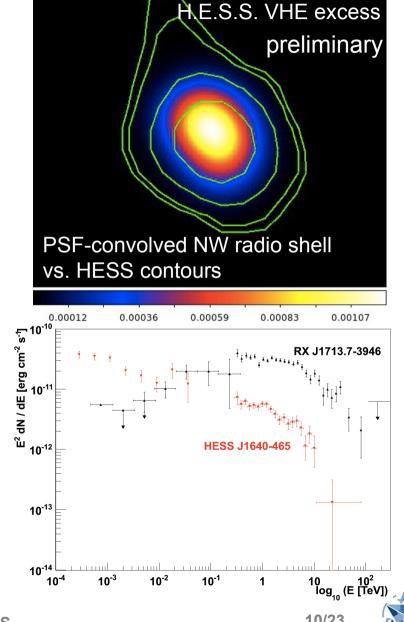


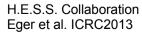




The brightest SNR seen: HESS J1640-465

- Most luminous Galactic TeV source
- Distance: 8 13 kpc
- Total livetime: 63.4 h
 - ~1800 excess events
- Morphology:
 - Significantly extended: $\sigma = (4.3 \pm 0.3)$ '
 - Asymmetric extension towards HII region slightly preferred (by 2σ)
 - Significant overlap with northwestern SNR shell

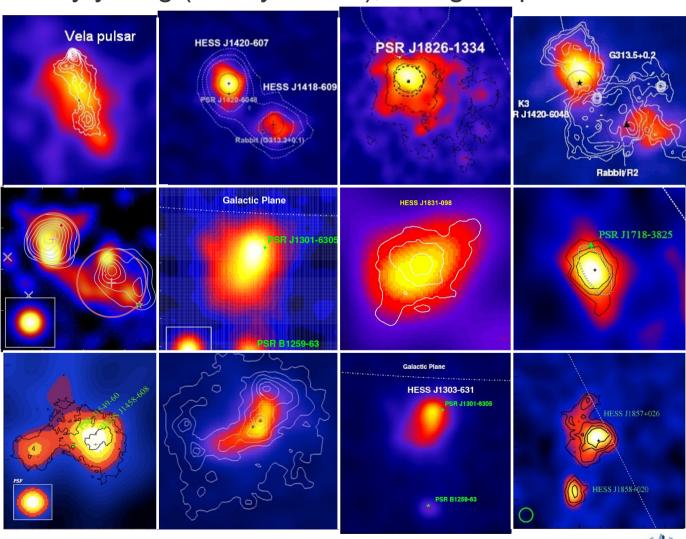






Pulsar Wind Nebulae

- Major galactic TeV source population
 - Associated with relatively young (<10⁵ year old), energetic pulsars
 - Extended sources,10s of pc
 - Often displaced from pulsar (expansion into inhomogeneous medium)
- Generally believed that we see inverse Compton emission of 1-100 TeV electrons



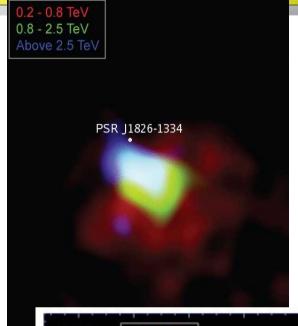


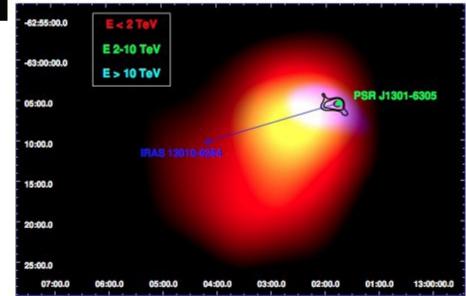


Pulsar Wind Nebulae

Energy-dependent Morphology

- HESS J1825-137, HESS J1303-631
- Associated with energetic pulsar
- Spectral steepening seen away from the pulsar
- Very likely this is evidence for cooling of electrons in the Nebula
 - Seen in several X-ray PWN
- A first in gamma-ray astronomy!
- Now seen in several VHE PWNe









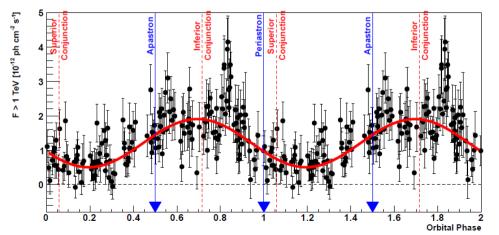


Binary system

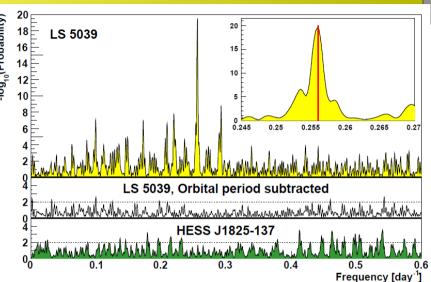
- Massive star (20 M☉), UV (17 000 K)
- Unidentified Compact Object (BH or NS)
 M= [1.5 5] M⊙
- Tight orbit (d = [2 4.5] R☆), ~ 0.1 AU!
- Orbital period 3.9 days (from Doppler)
- Distance ~ 3kpc (9000 light yr)

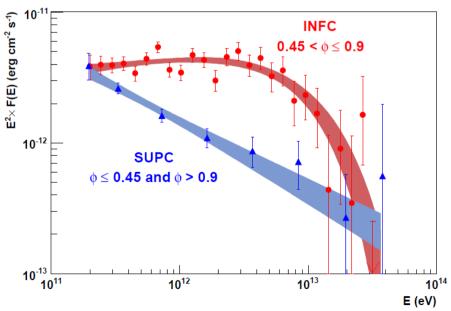
H.E.S.S. discovery, First Periodic VHE source:

- Best fit period $3,90577 \pm 0,00013$ (11 seconds precision!)
- Optical period is 3.90603 days (MJD0 = 51942.59): 2σ away
- Folded light-curve shows features to be explained and orbital phase-resolved spectra



Binaries: LS5039







TrevorFest, April 2013 Results from HESS 13/23

Binaries: 1FGL J1018.6-5856 / HESS J1018-589A

HE gamma-rays:

- "genuine" γ-ray binary: Fermi discovery
- Periodic modulation = 16.58 days

Optical:

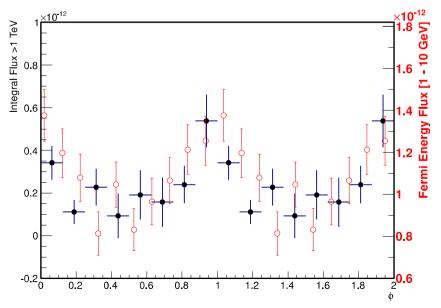
O6V((f)) companion star

X-rays:

 periodicity seen also in X-rays, with a double peak structure in the phase-folded light-curve

Radio:

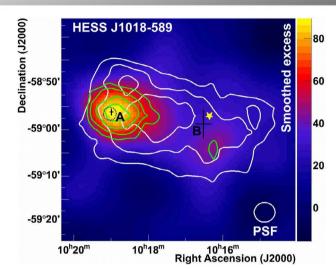
flux variability, but no peak at φ ~ 0

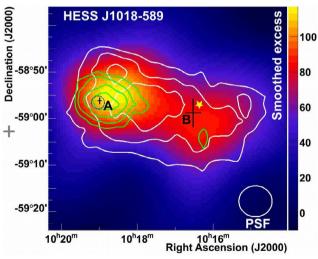


TrevorFest, April 2013

H.E.S.S.:

- Two sources, point-like (1FGL J1018?) + extended (PSR J1016?)
- Search for variability in H.E.S.S.
- \Rightarrow Similar orbital variation as Fermi: peak at phase 0(3.1 σ).

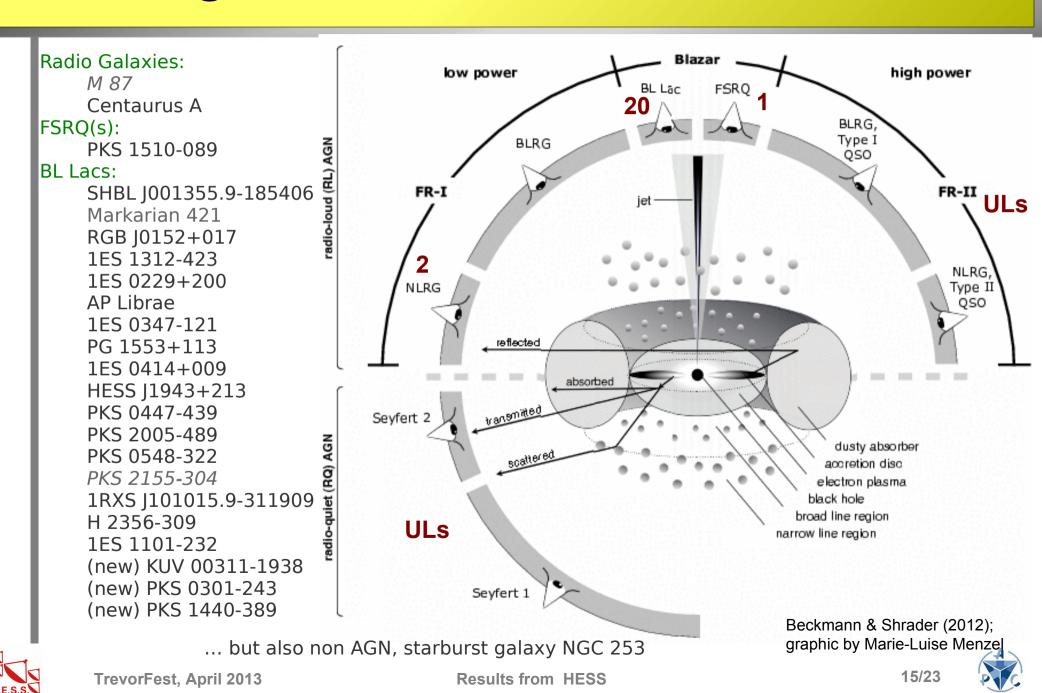




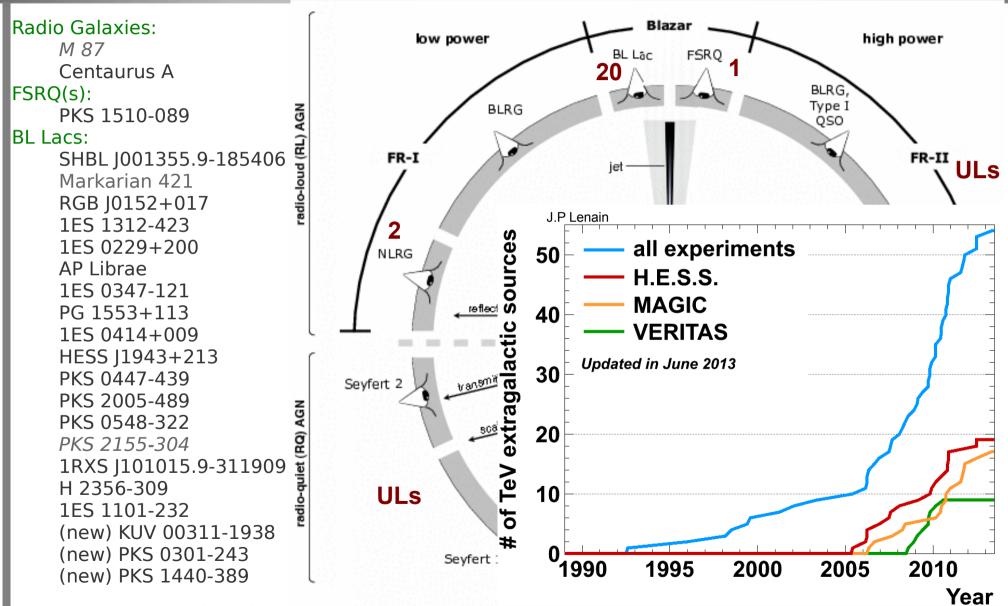
Abramowski et al. (2012)



Extragalactic: Active Galactic Nuclei ... +



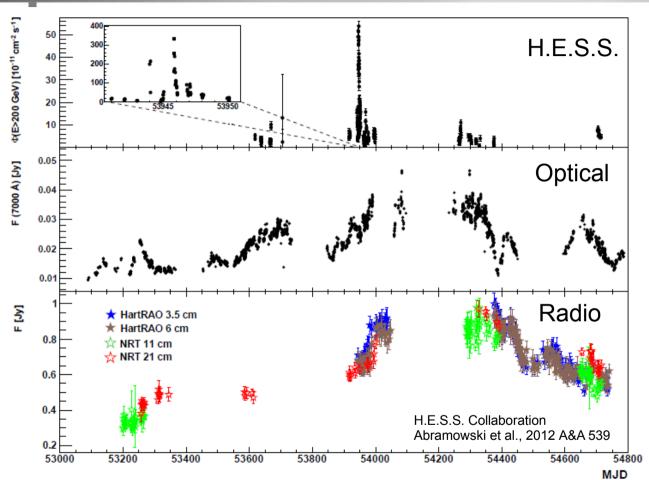
Extragalactic: Active Galactic Nuclei ... +





... but also non AGN, starburst galaxy NGC 253

Old faithful: PKS 2155-309



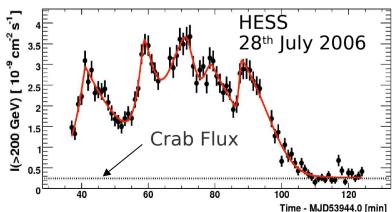
- VHE/X-ray correlation seen during flaring epoch
- Some link between long term optical/radio level & VHE flaring
- One zone SSC models only fit SED during low states

- Rich source, bright, flaring
- Not HESS-discovery
- 9 H.E.S.S. papers so far!

"Big Flare"

- Best measured rise-time: 173 ± 28 s
- Two orders of magnitude brighter than typical
- Time-scale probes size of emitting region if causality
- Also used to test Quantum Gravity

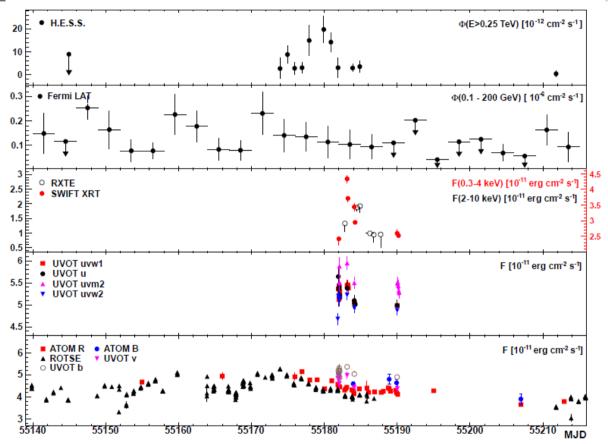
H.E.S.S. collaboration, Aharonian et al. ApJ. 664 (2007) L71-L74



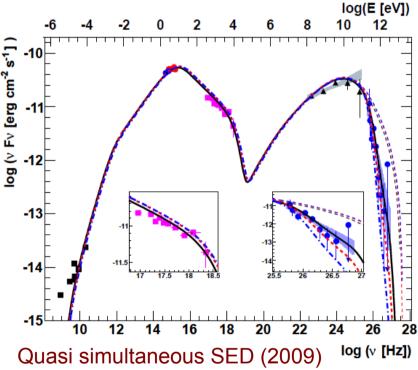


TrevorFest, April 2013 Results from HESS 17

New AGN: PKS 0447-439



- H.E.S.S. discovery
- 15σ after 13h in 2009 exposure
- VHE variability from days to months



- H.E.S.S. firm UL for currently-unknown redshift, z <~ 0.4
- Broad-band SED overall fit by one-zone SSC, but ...
- No exact correlations between VHE, HE, X-ray, Optical ⇒ Challenging one-zone SSC

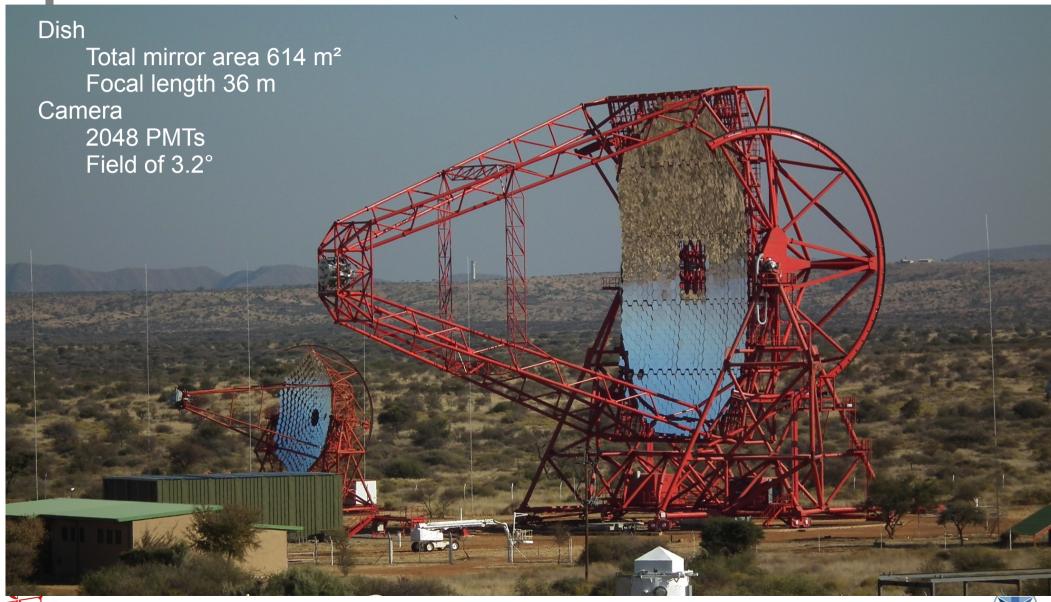




H.E.S.S. collaboration,

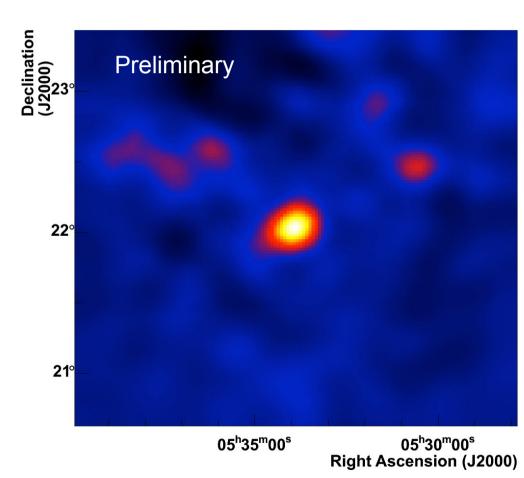
Abramowski et al. A&A 552 (2013) A118

The H.E.S.S.-II Telescope, CT5



First H.E.S.S.-II preliminary mono results

- First data from the Crab Nebula taken with the new H.E.S.S. telescope
 - Zenith angle: 46°
 - Preliminary mono-analysis
- Excess map with E > 50 GeV (for preliminary mono-analysis, vs. 400 GeV threshold H.E.S.S.-I)



H.E.S.S. Collaboration Holler et al. ICRC2013



Conclusions

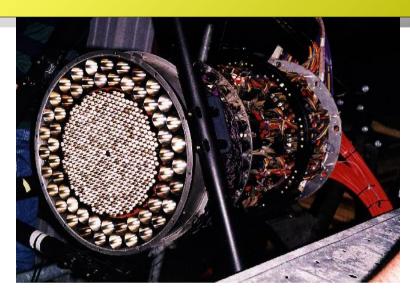
- HESS-I
 - Technical Inheritance from Whipple + HEGRA + CAT
 - Know-how inheritance from Whipple (via Artemis & CAT) & HEGRA stereo
 - ⇒ Rich harvest of results, better than hoped for, building on the Whipple Observatory & Trevor Weekes' foundations
 - Now, simple detections of PWNe / AGNs are relegated to conference posters or research notes!
- Near future, with HESS-II
 - But slow start, low-energies and mono are hard, especially combined!
 - Stay tuned ...
- Farther on the horizon: CTA





P.S. CAT 1996-2001





- Notable Mechanical / Optical characteristics
 - 17.8 m² mirror area (16 m² after shadowing), 5m Ø, 90 x 50cm Ø facets
 - Focal length 6m → high F/D ~ 1.2 (for fast timing)
- Characteristics concerning camera (some → HESS):
 - Very fine pixel camera, 600 PMs, most <0.13° (some guard rings)
 - Fast (small) PMs, low TTS (transit time spread)
 - Fast electronics
 - "Semi-integrated" camera
 - All pre-amps, trigger logic electronics in camera
 - External integration gate in counterweight
 - ADCs, DAQ, HVs in counterweight





Conclusions

- HESS-I
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