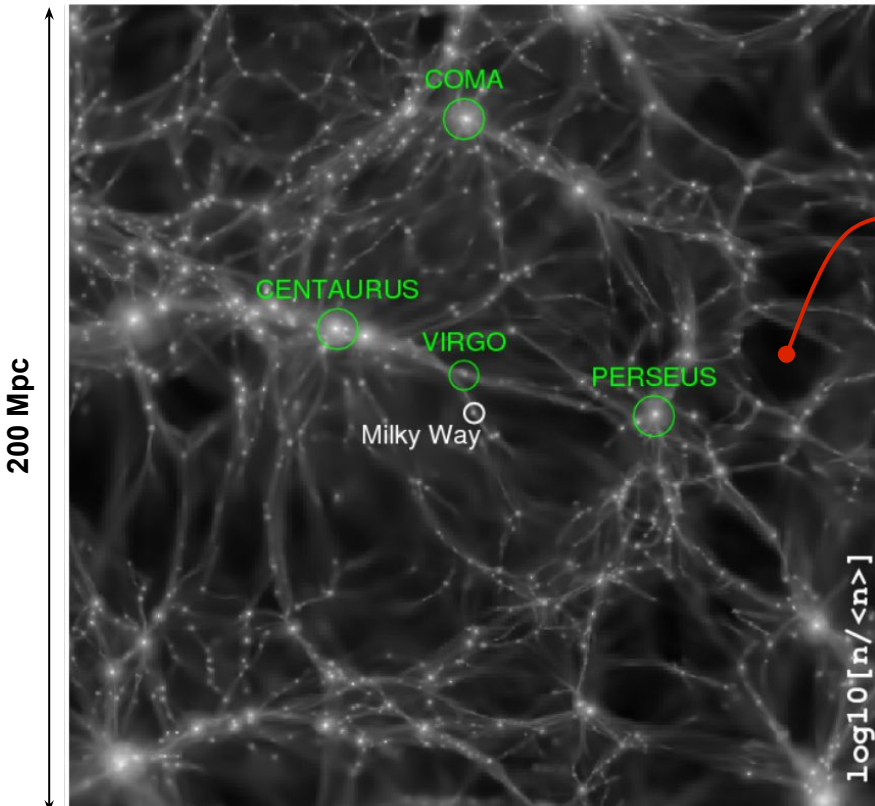


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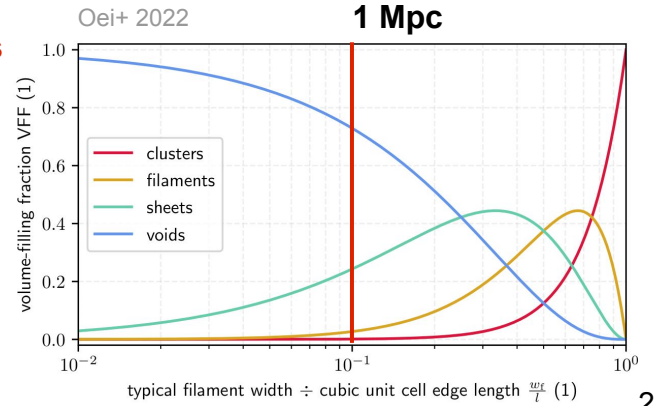
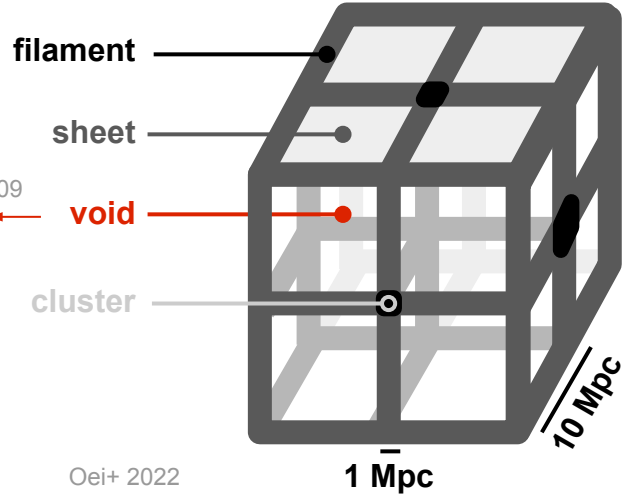
# Probing Extragalactic Magnetic and Radiation Fields with Gamma Rays

# What's in voids?

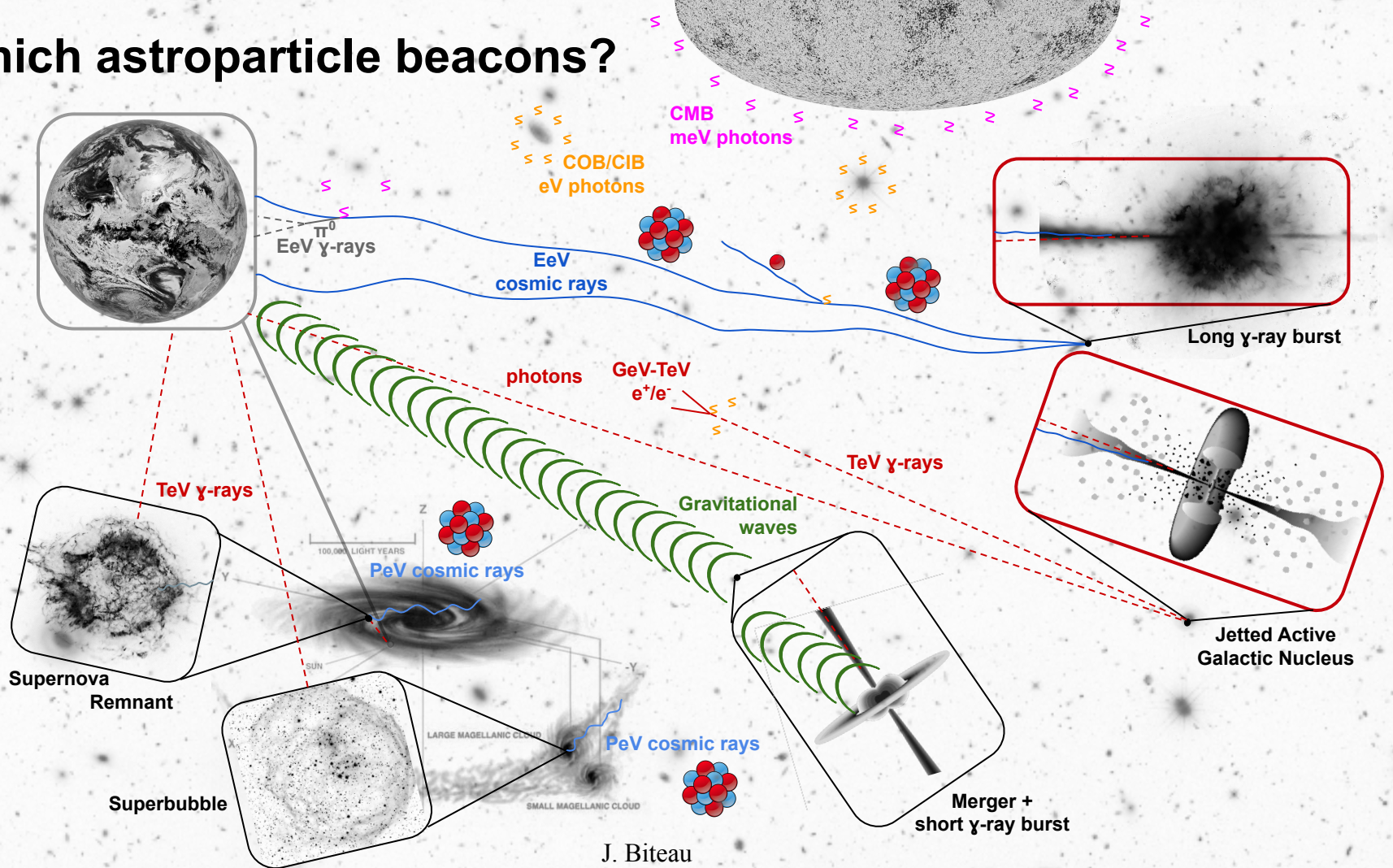


Hackstein+ 2018 (Cosmic V-web constrained simulation / CLUES)

- 70-80% of the volume? Forero-Romero+ 2009
- Significant fraction of baryons Driver 2021
- Probed here with **astroparticles**



# Which astroparticle beacons?



# Physics of extragalactic beacons of astroparticles

## Central engine

Compact objects: black holes, neutron stars (accretion-ejection, merging)  
→ dense matter, general relativity (GR), GR magnetohydrodynamics

## Acceleration

Relativistic shocks, magnetic reconnection  
→ particle-in-cell simulations from first principles

## Radiative processes

Synchrotron, Inverse-Compton, Pion decay, Nuclear cascades  
→ phenomenological model of particle flow + radiative microphysics

## Escape

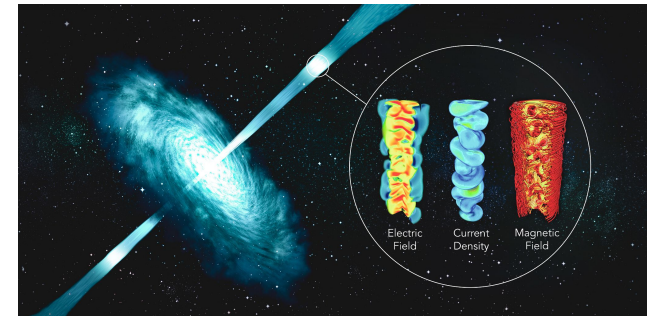
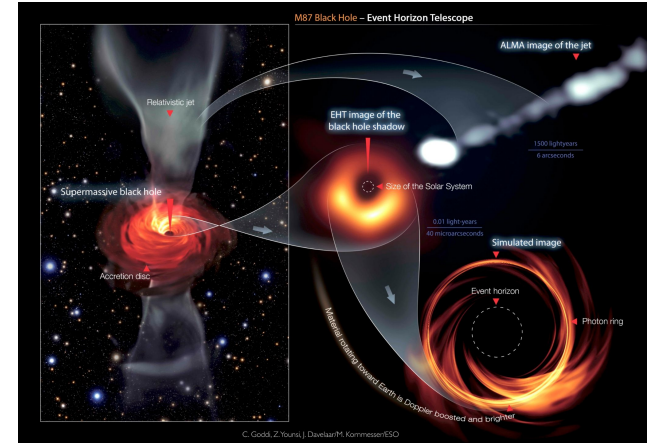
Multiscale magnetic fields and photon fields, target material  
→ phenomenological model of particle/photon flow & of environment

## Propagation

On interstellar (kyrs), intergalactic (Myrs) or cosmic (Gyrs) scales  
→ probe of fundamental physics & diffuse electromagnetic fields

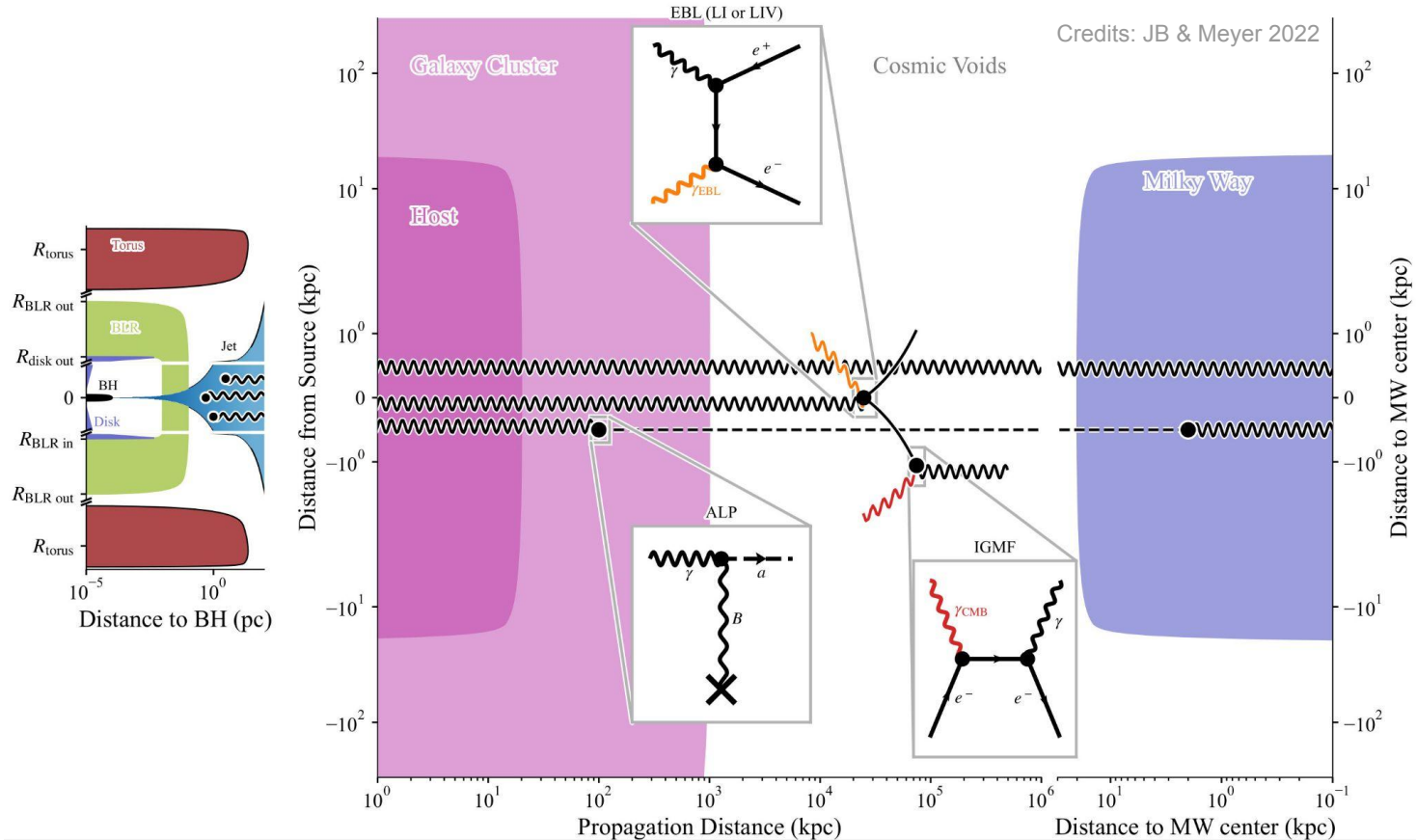
J. Biteau

Highlight: the active galaxy M87 Credits: Goddi+, ESO

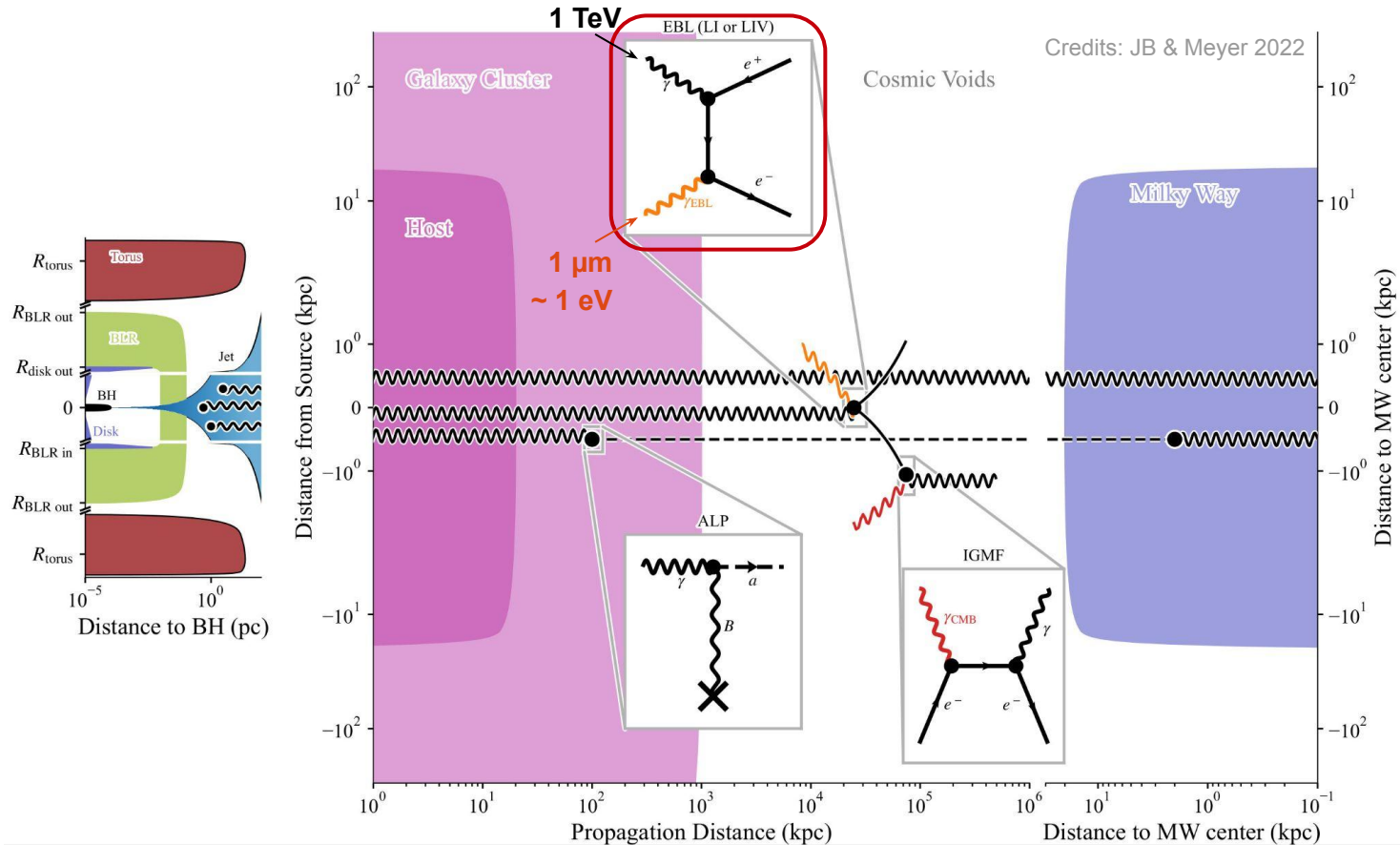


Credits: Stewart, SLAC

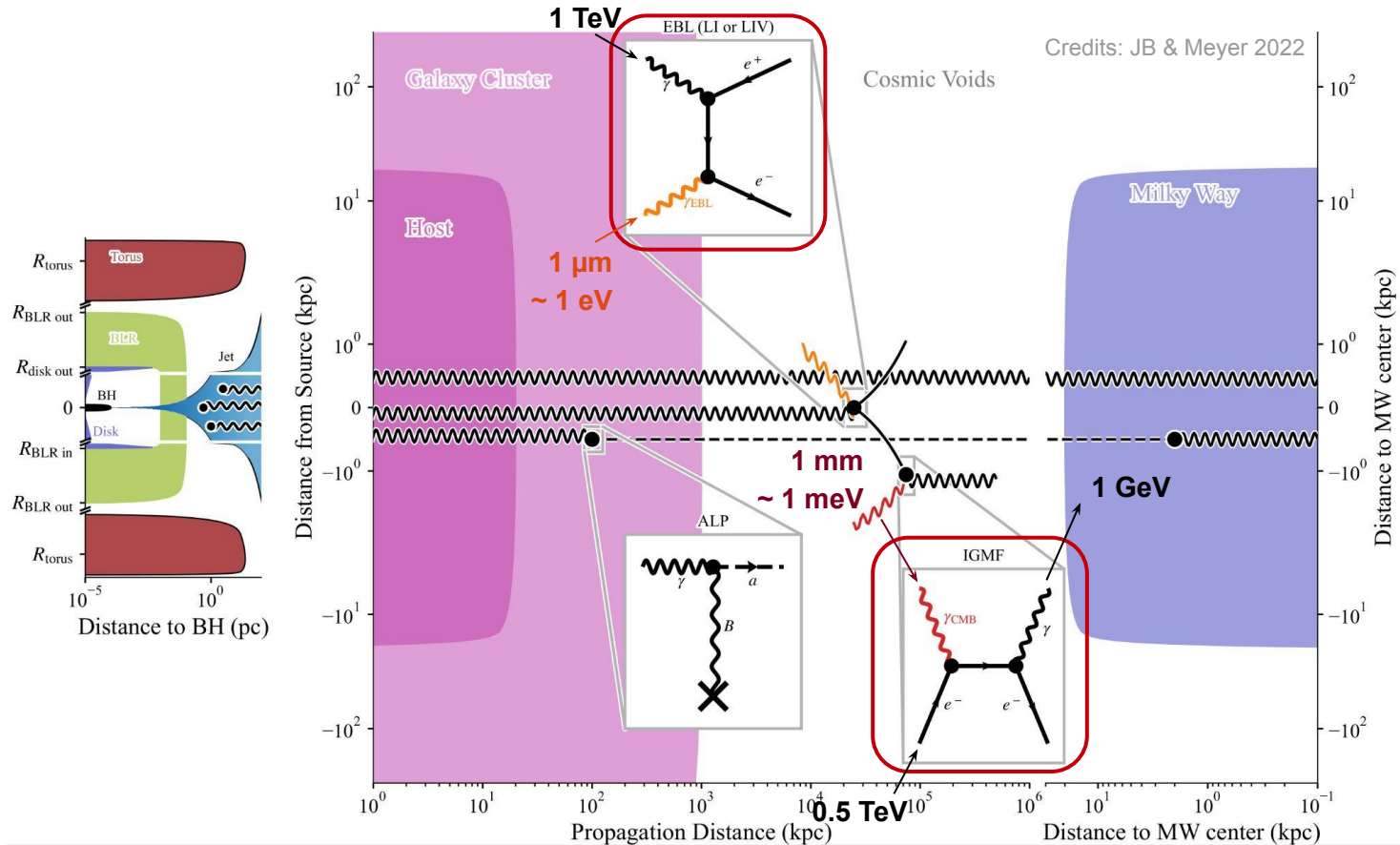
# $\gamma$ -ray propagation from sources down to Earth



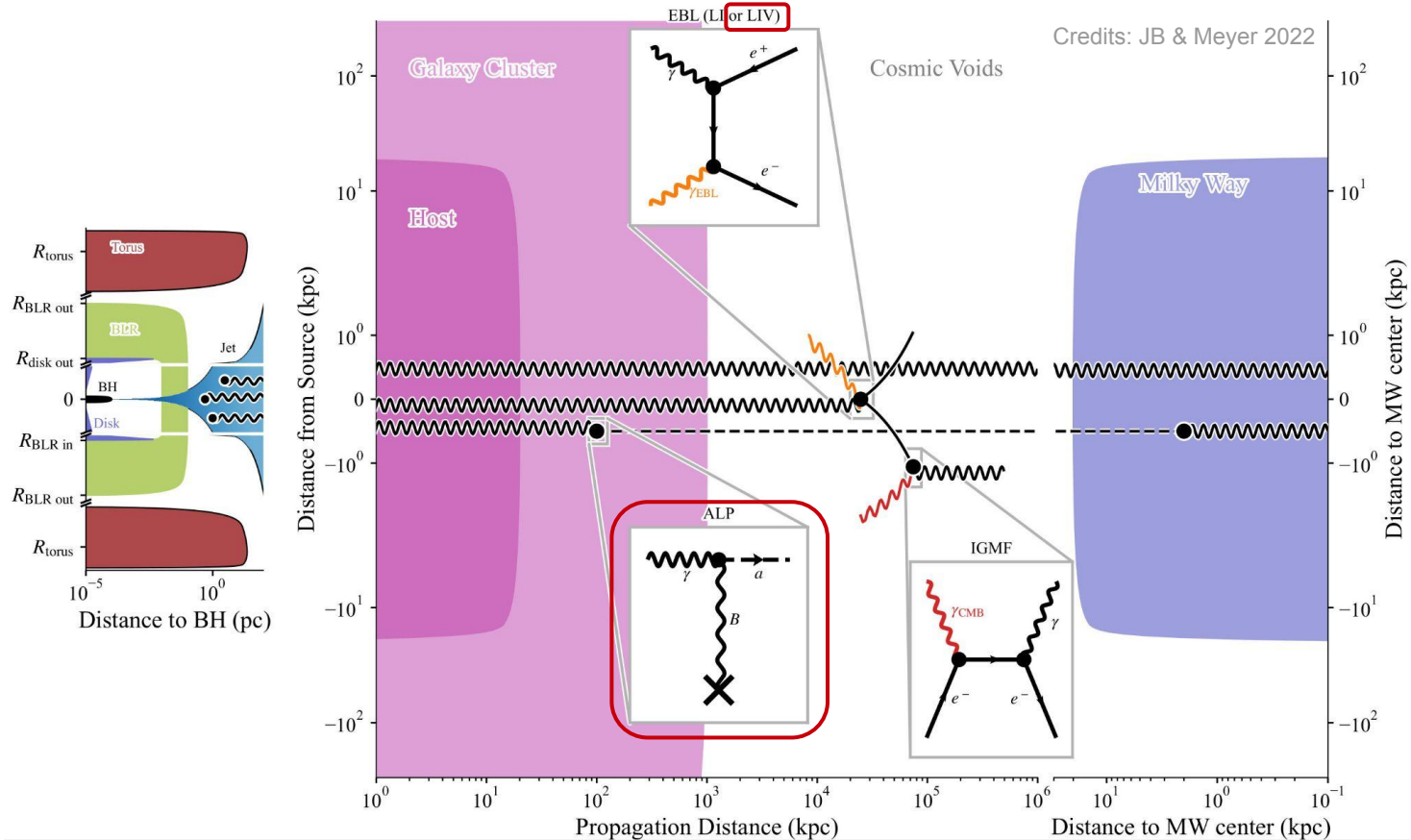
# $\gamma$ -ray propagation from sources down to Earth



# $\gamma$ -ray propagation from sources down to Earth



# $\gamma$ -ray propagation from sources down to Earth

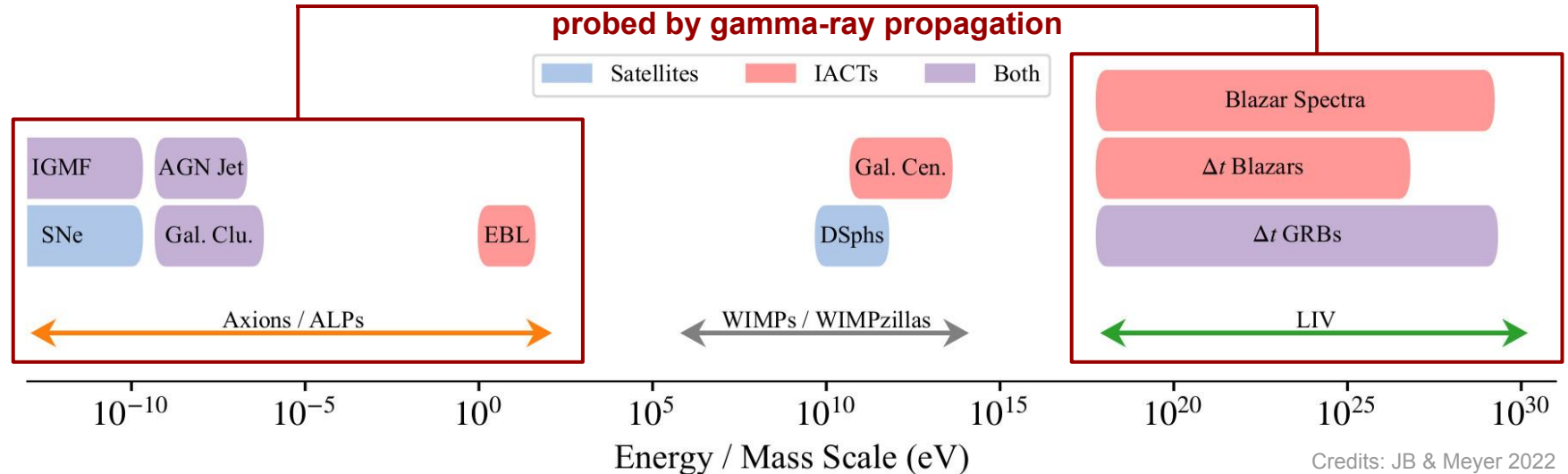




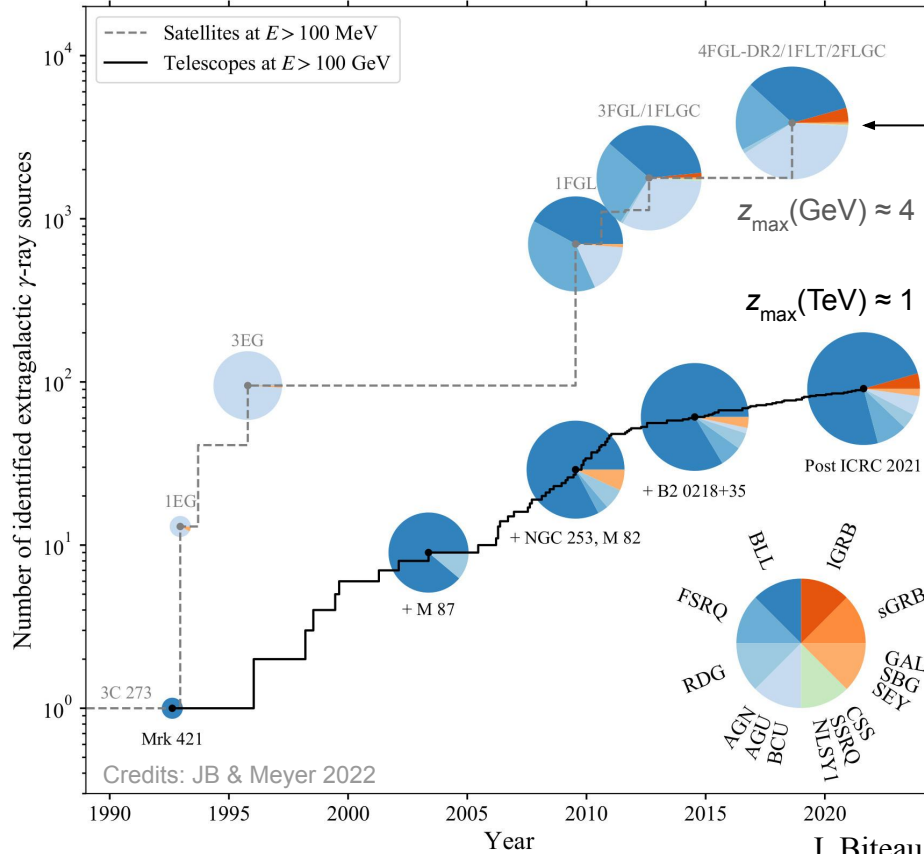
# Aparté: $\gamma$ -ray propagation and fundamental physics

**Dark matter: what is that? Theories beyond QFT and GR: is there anything to observe?**

- Top-down processes (*heavy axion-like particles* / \*or WIMPs\* /): decay / \*or self annihilation\* / into photons
  - Mixing with light axion-like particles (ALP): CTA will start probing ALP dark-matter parameter space CTA 2021
  - LIV linearly modified dispersion relation (CPT-odd): Planck scale  $\sim$ excluded by spectra &  $\Delta t$ !
- $\Rightarrow$  High-risk / high-gain themes. Notes: ALP constraints dependent upon B-field morphology in jet



# Status of extragalactic $\gamma$ -ray astronomy



# γ-ray observation techniques

**Satellite-based: 100 MeV - 1 TeV**

O(100%) duty cycle, ~ 550 km altitude

SSDs + CsI(Tl) / photodiodes

Field of view >  $0.5\pi$  sr

Lead: *Fermi-LAT*

**Telescope-based: 100 GeV - 100 TeV**

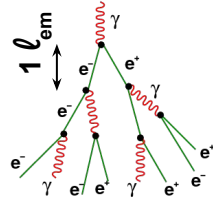
O(10%) duty cycle, ~ 2 km above sea level

~1000 PMTs / camera

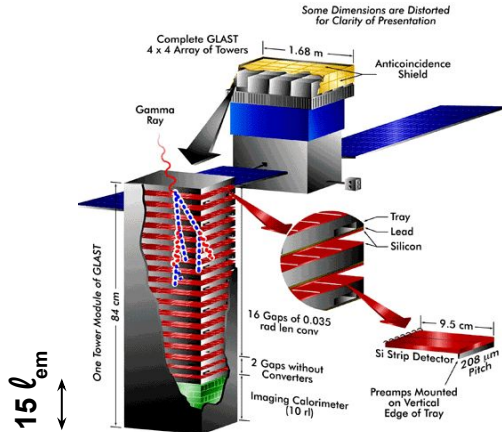
Field of view ~  $5^\circ$

Lead: HESS, MAGIC, VERITAS

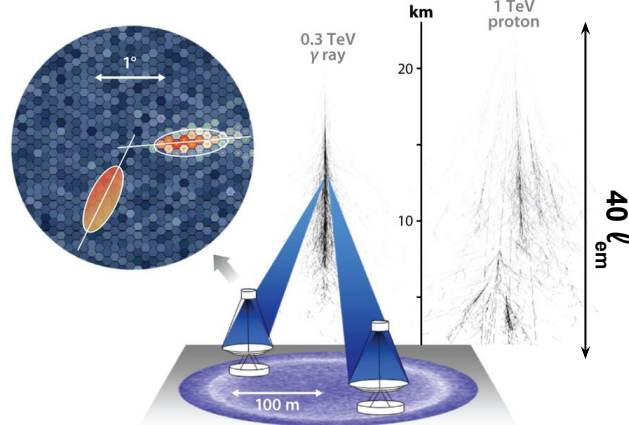
em cascade



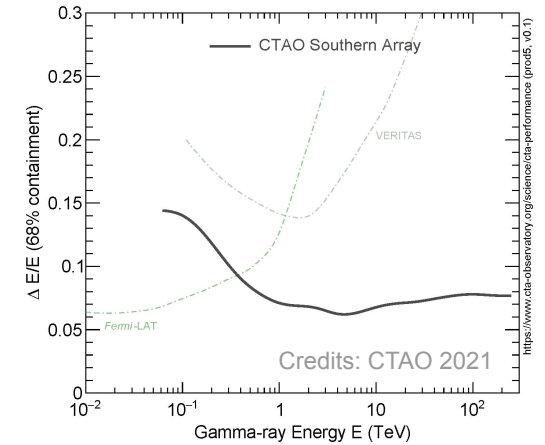
Mollerach & Roulet (2017)



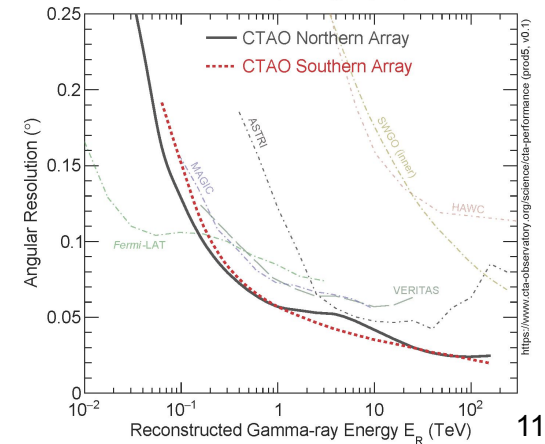
Some Dimensions are Distorted for Clarity of Presentation



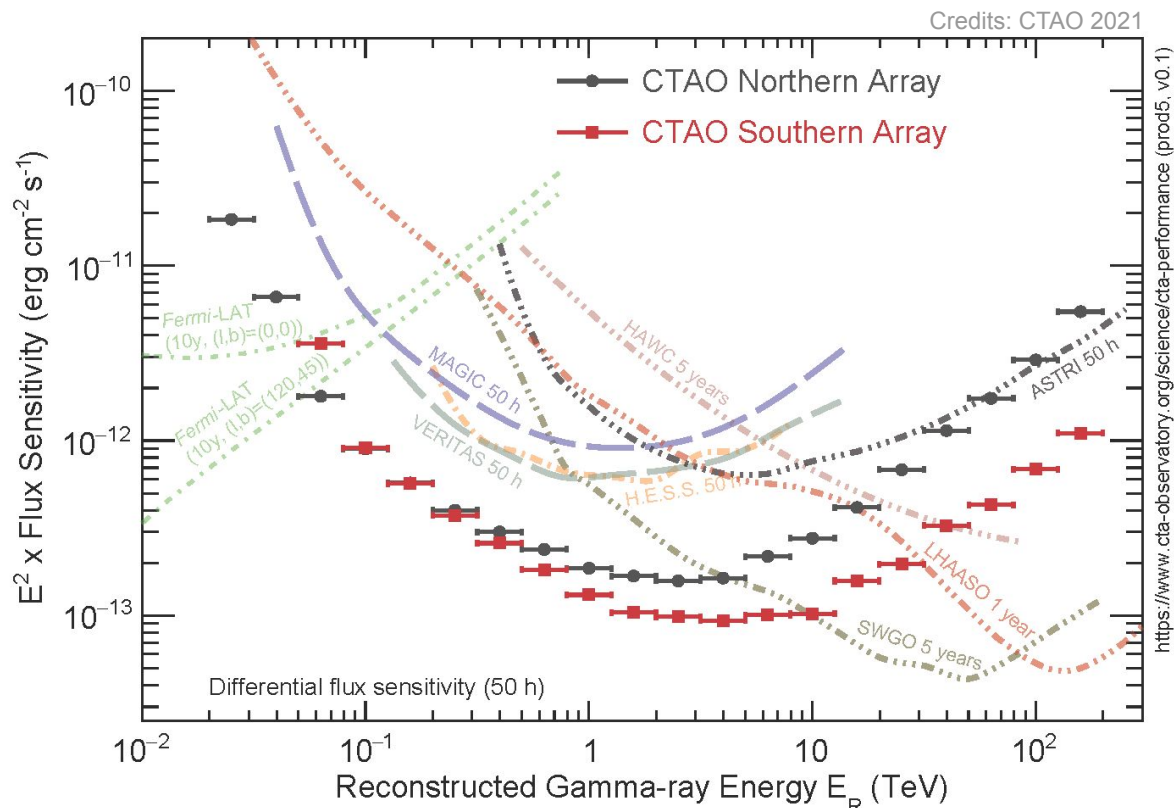
J. Biteau



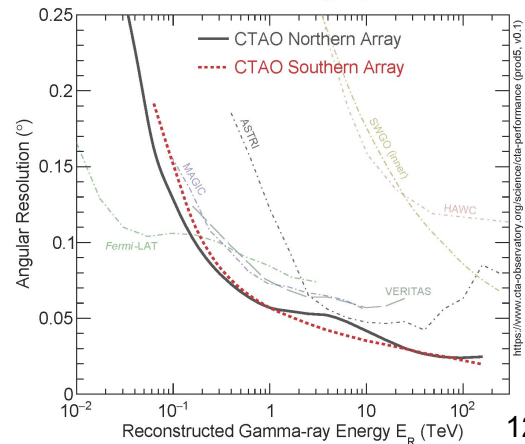
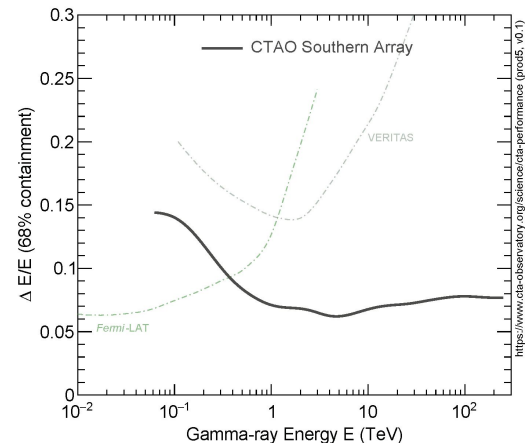
Credits: CTAO 2021



# Upcoming: the Cherenkov Telescope Array



J. Biteau



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# The magnetic content of voids

*A gamma-ray view*

# Absence of secondary signal

## Discovery of extreme TeV blazars in 2006

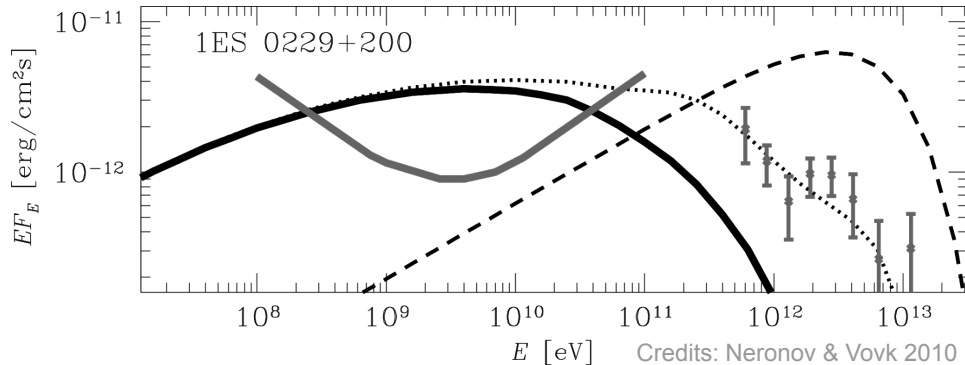
Hard TeV photon spectrum when corrected for absorption

Intrinsic emission expected to be faint in the GeV band

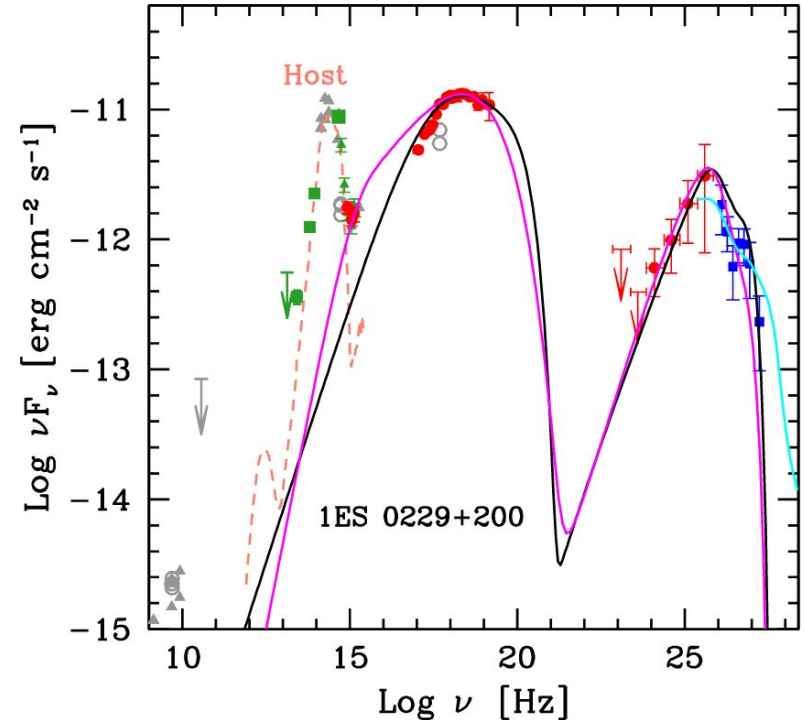
## Reprocessed emission?

None in 2010 within point spread function

⇒ **minimum  $B$ -field needed to spread out the signal**



Credits: JB+ 2020

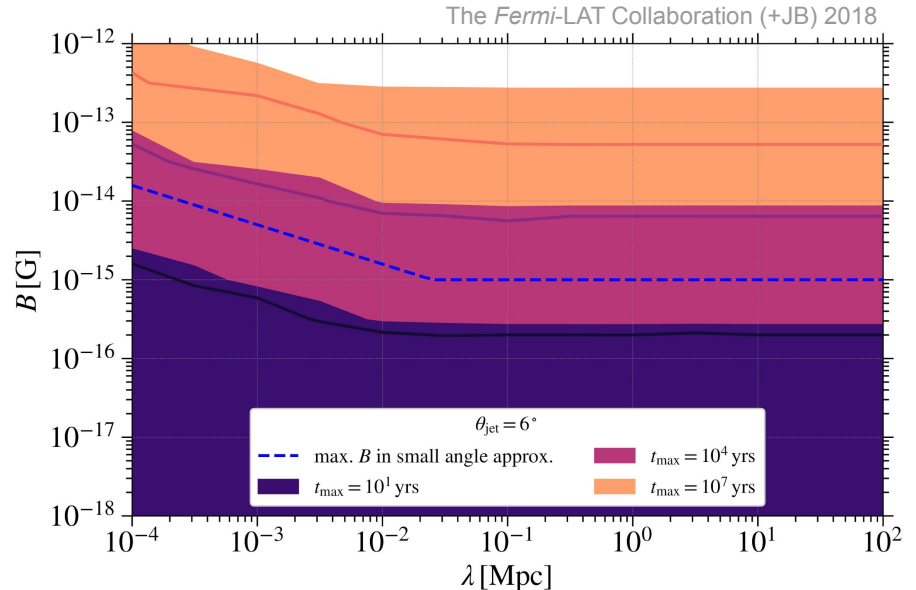
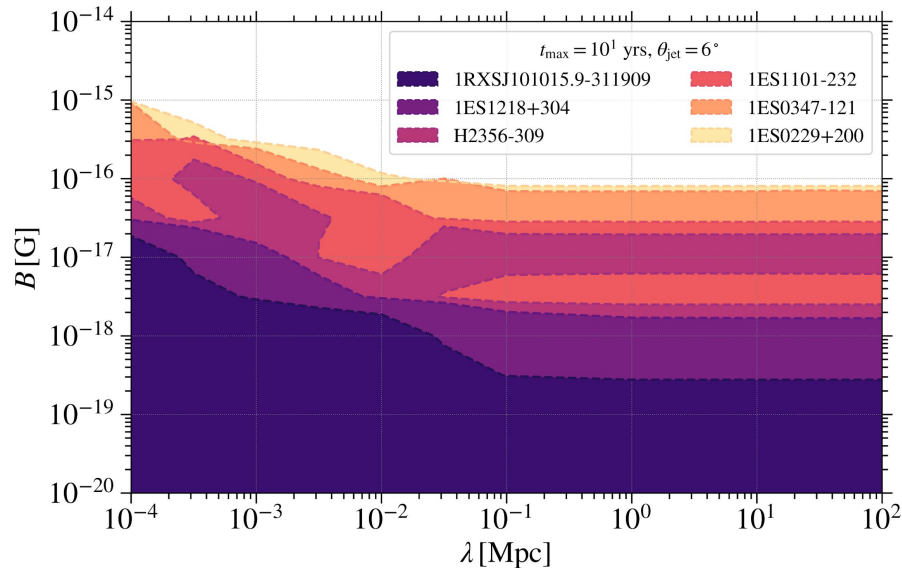


# Most up-to-date constraints

## Search for extended sources in the GeV band

Extreme-TeV blazars observed by *Fermi*-LAT ~ point source → joint likelihood: TeV/GeV spectra + *GeV morphology*

Constraints on magnetic fields in voids:  $B > 0.1\text{-}1 \text{ fG}$  (minimal assumptions)

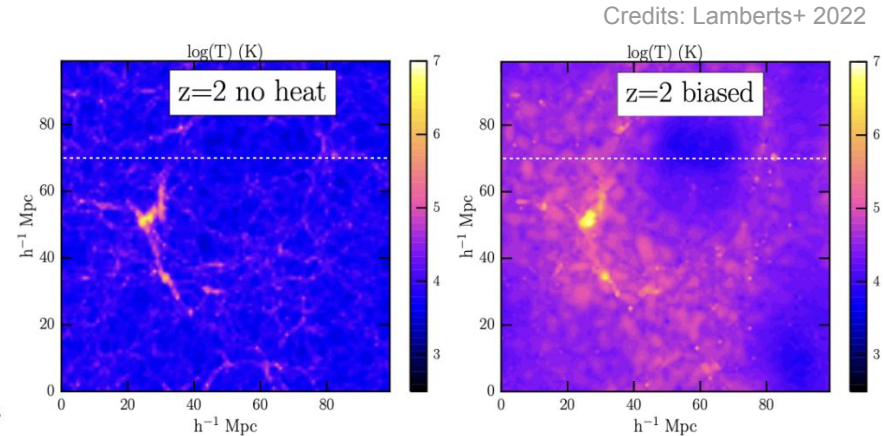
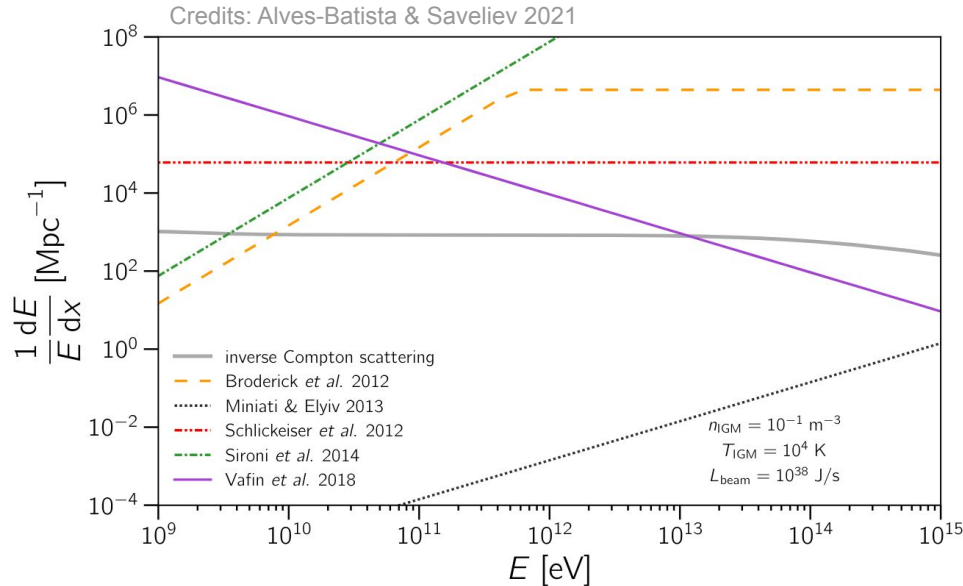


# Alternative cooling

## Plasma instabilities faster than inverse Compton?

Yes, on paper... Analytics / simulations limited by several order-of-magnitude extrapolations  $\Rightarrow$  unclear if viable

Possible heat source for intergalactic medium, observable through temperature history of the universe (Ly $\alpha$  forest)?



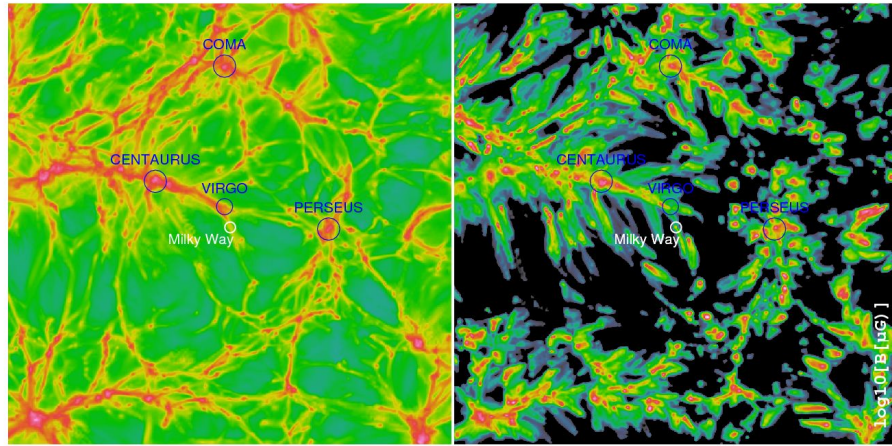


# Magnetic fields in voids

## Status and expectations (if low plasma instabilities)

Current-generation (GeV+TeV - TeV extension):  $B > 10\text{-}100$  fG

5 $\sigma$  CTA-discovery potential up to 300 fG

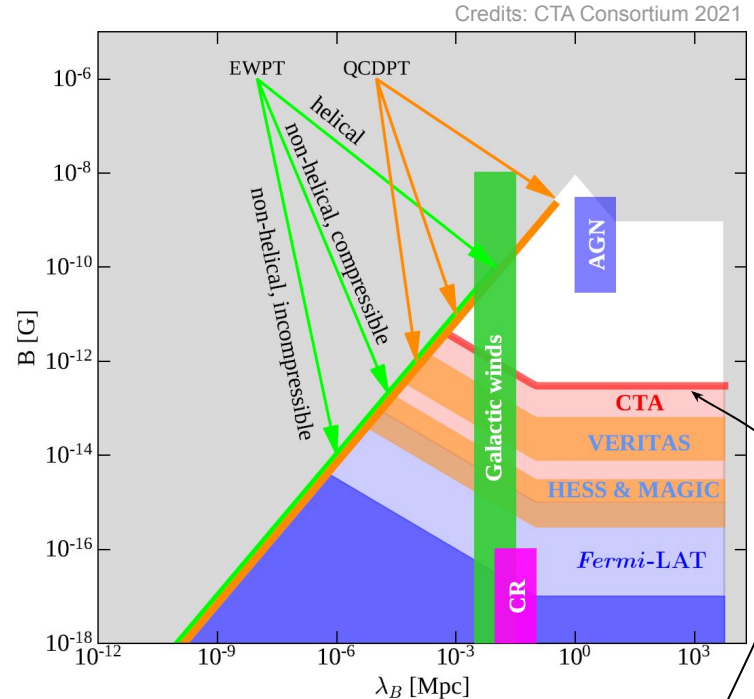


Credits: Hackstein+ 2018

Primordial origin simulation  
 $B(\text{void}) < 1$  nG?

Astrophysical origin simulation  
 $B(\text{void}) < 1$  pG?

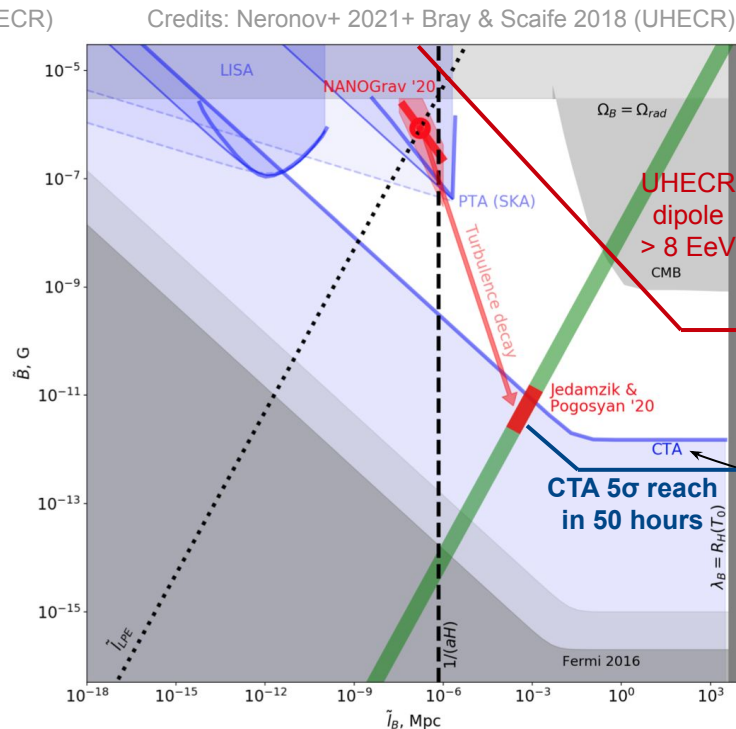
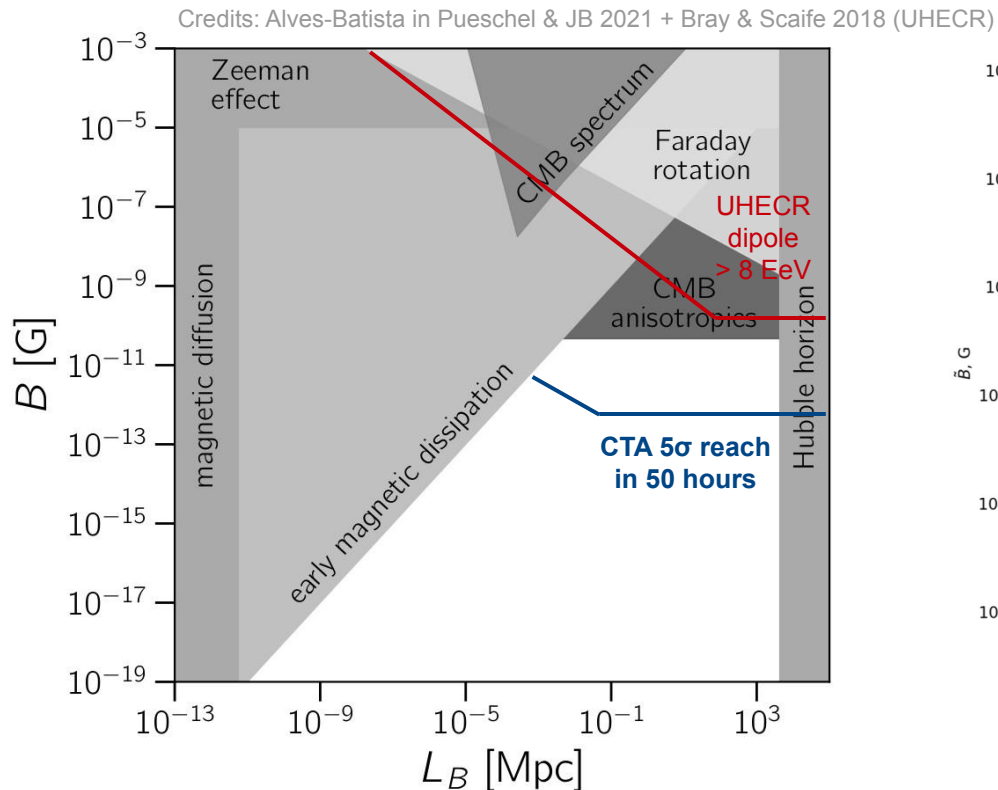
In practice... largely unknown!



Credits: CTA Consortium 2021

1ES 0229+200 ( $z=0.14$ ) up to  $E_{\text{cut}} = 10$  TeV,  
50h of CTAO-North to reach 5 $\sigma$

# Multi-wavelength and multi-messenger constraints



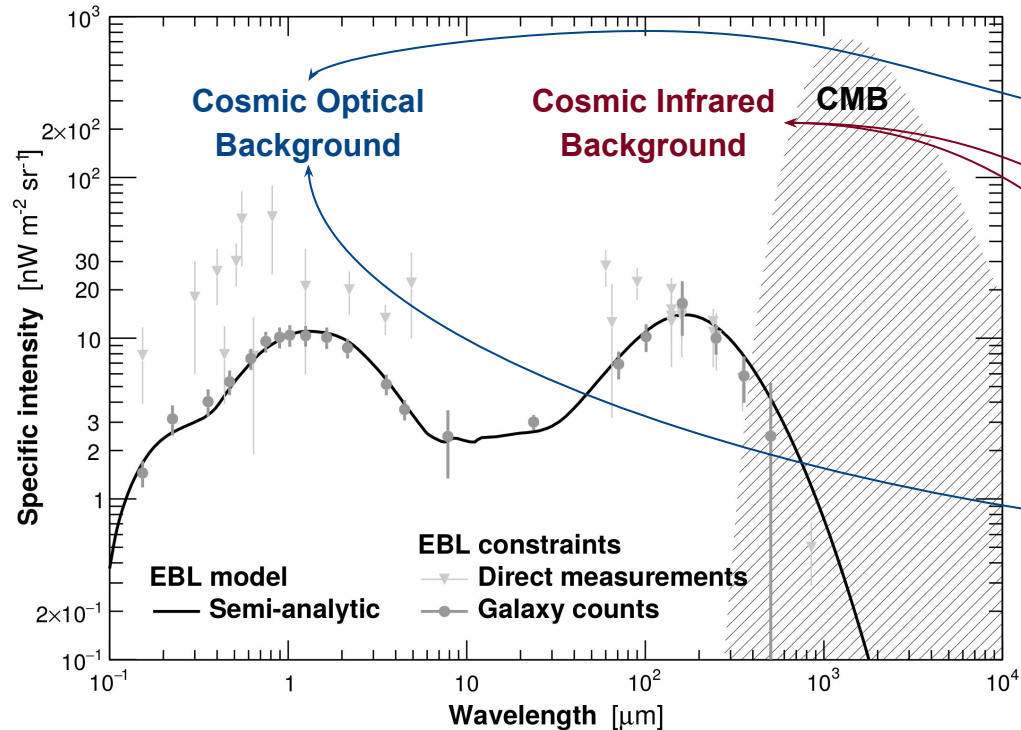
Mrk 501 ( $z=0.03$ ) up to  $E_{cut} = 100$  TeV,  
350h of CTAO-North to reach  $5\sigma$

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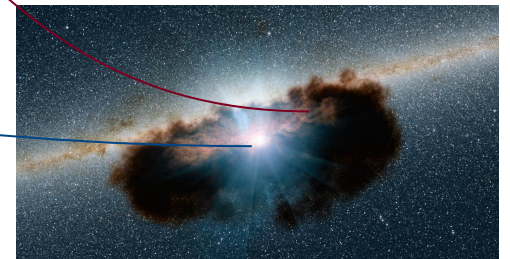
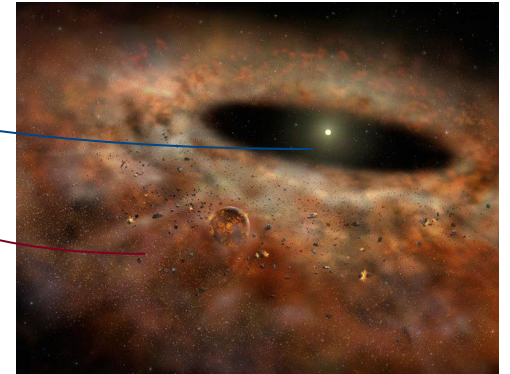
# The light content of voids

*A gamma-ray view*

# The extragalactic background light

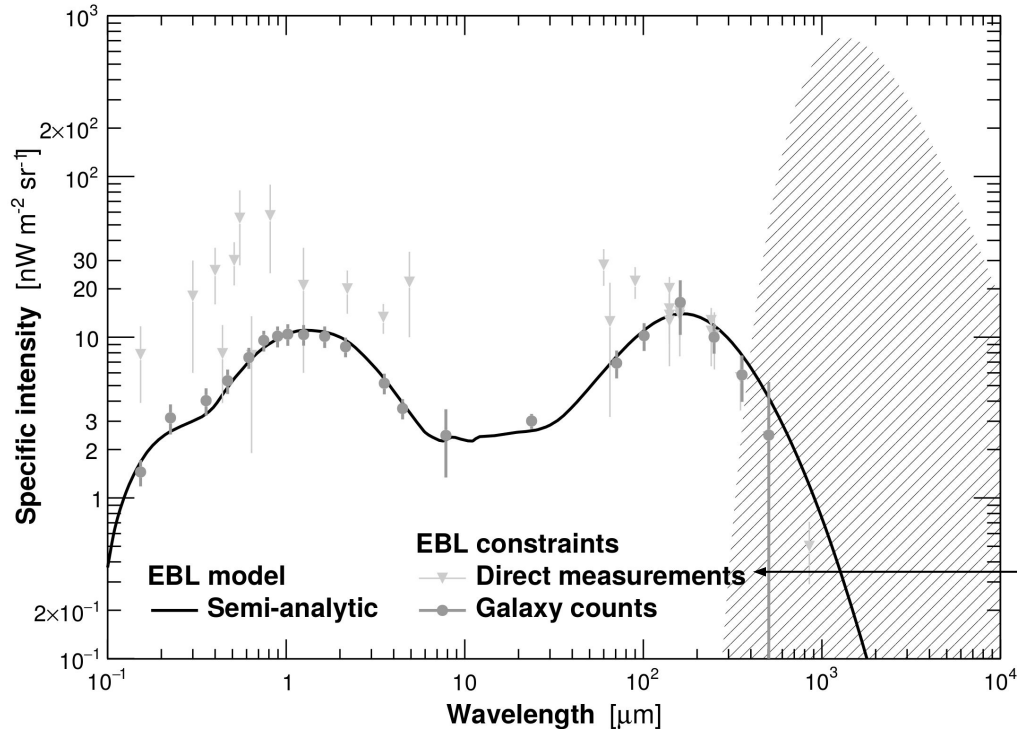


Credits: Gemini Obs./AURA/Lynette Cook

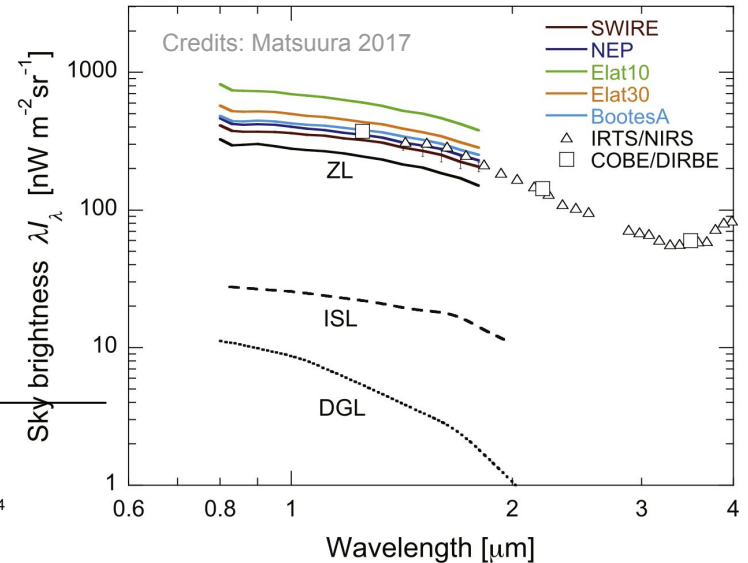


Credits: NASA/JPL-Caltech

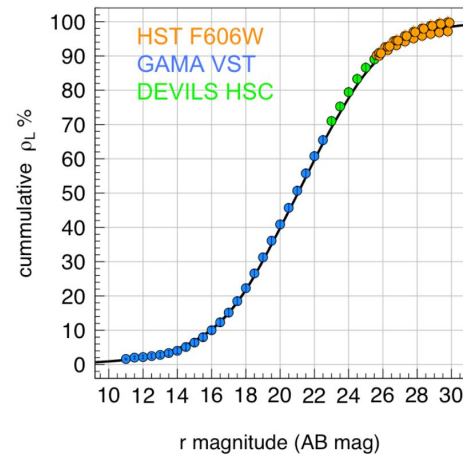
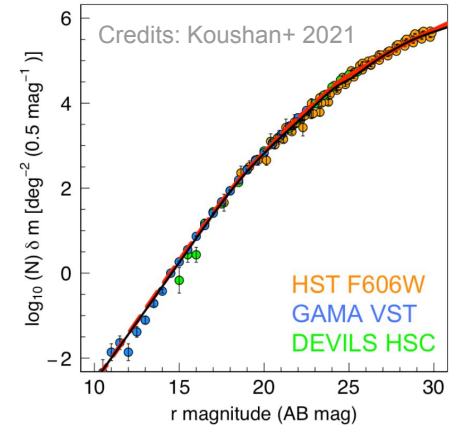
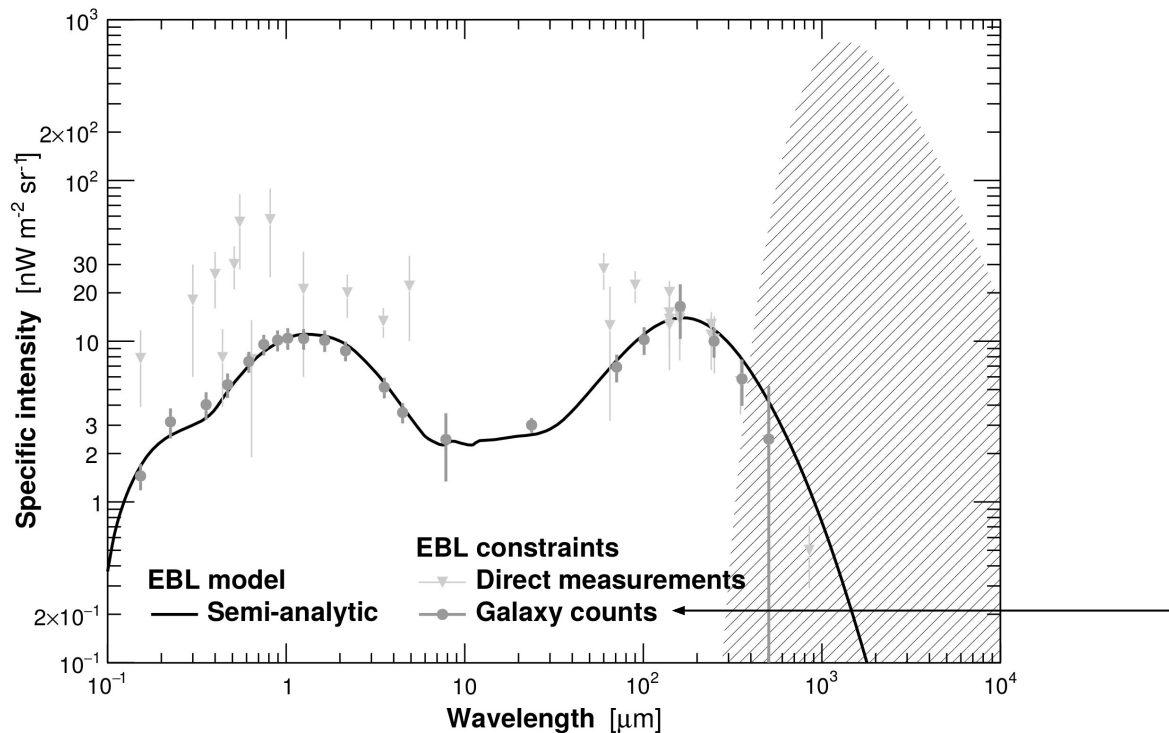
# Direct measurements



- ZL = Zodiacal light
- ISL = Integrated star light
- DGL = Diffuse Galactic light
- EBL = Extragalactic background light  
= COB + CIB here



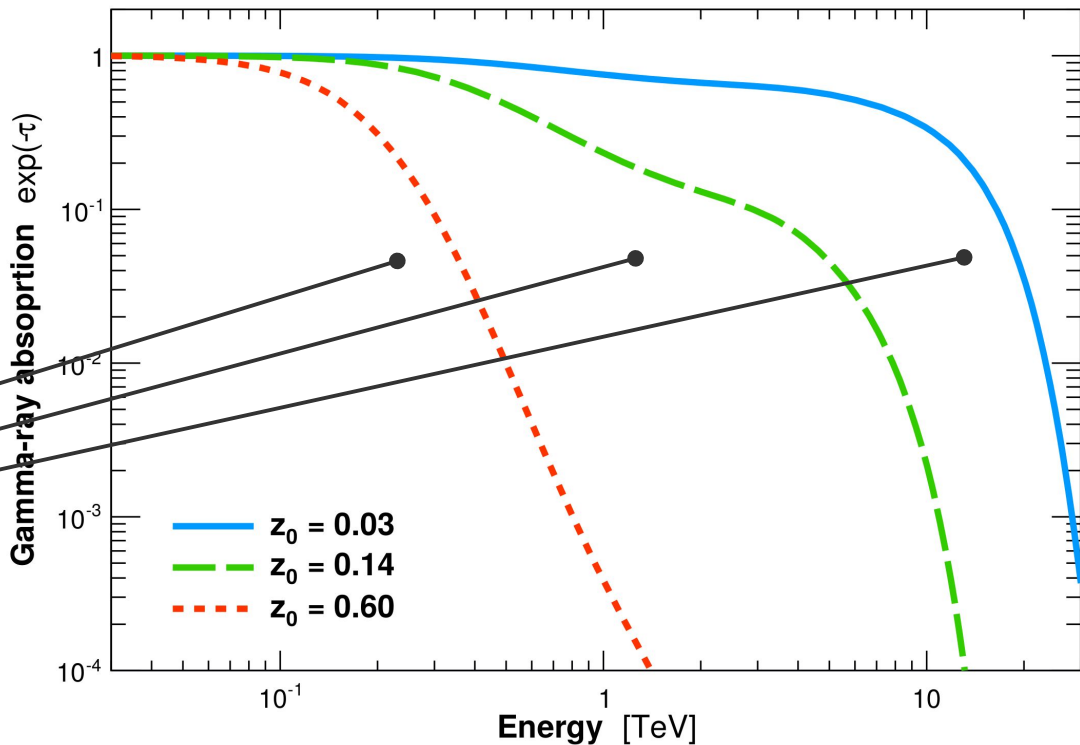
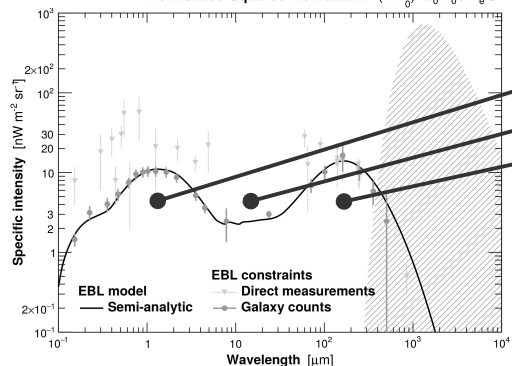
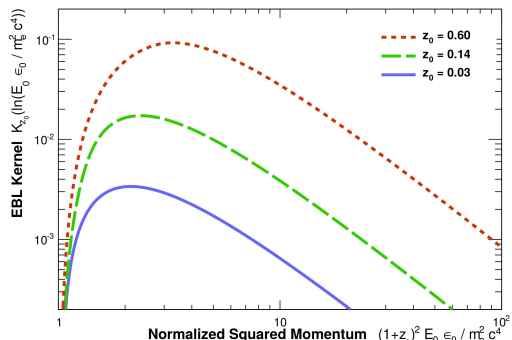
# Galaxy counts



# The gamma-ray technique

$$\tau_{\gamma\gamma}(E, z_0) = \int_0^{z_0} \Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}^{-1}(E(1+z), z) \frac{dl(z)}{dz} dz$$

$$\text{with } \Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}^{-1}(E', z) = \int_0^\infty d\epsilon' \frac{dn(\epsilon', z)}{d\epsilon'} \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta' \frac{1 - \cos\theta'}{2} \sigma_{\gamma\gamma}(\beta') \Theta(\epsilon' - \epsilon'_{\text{th}})$$



# The models and the gamma-ray technique

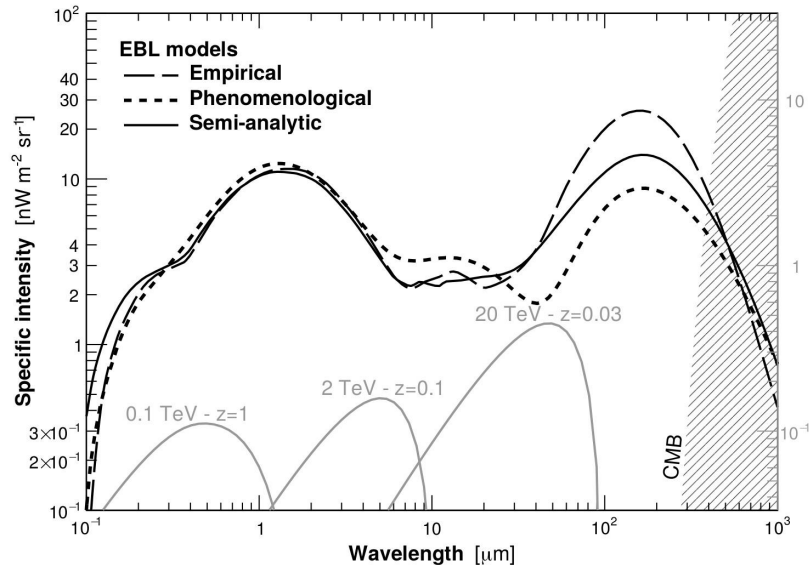
## Models of the COB + CIB (= extragalactic background light, EBL)

- Empirical models: extrapolate on local data
- Phenomenological models: SFR + population synthesis
- Semi-analytic models: N-body simulations

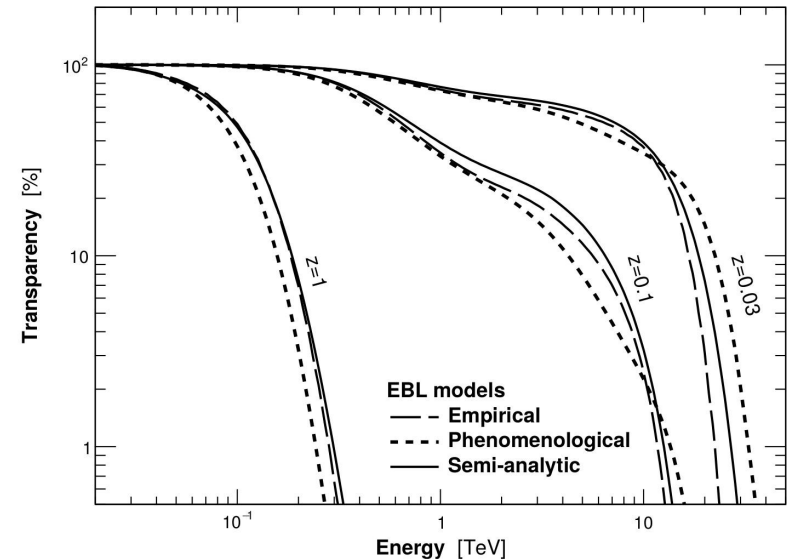
here Dominguez +11

here Finke+ 10

here Gilmore+ 12



Credits: Pueschel & JB 2021





# The models and the gamma-ray technique

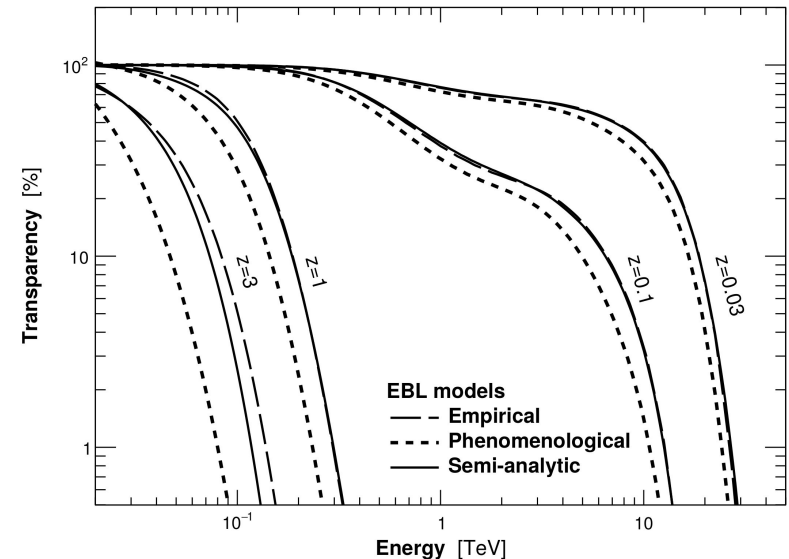
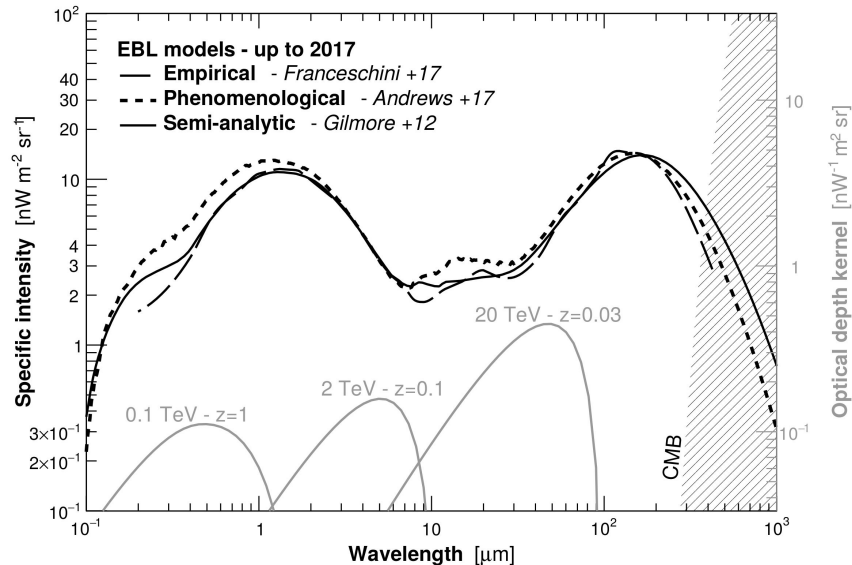
## Models of the COB + CIB (= extragalactic background light, EBL)

- Empirical models: extrapolate on local data
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- Semi-analytic models: N-body simulations

here Franceschini +17

here Andrews+ 17

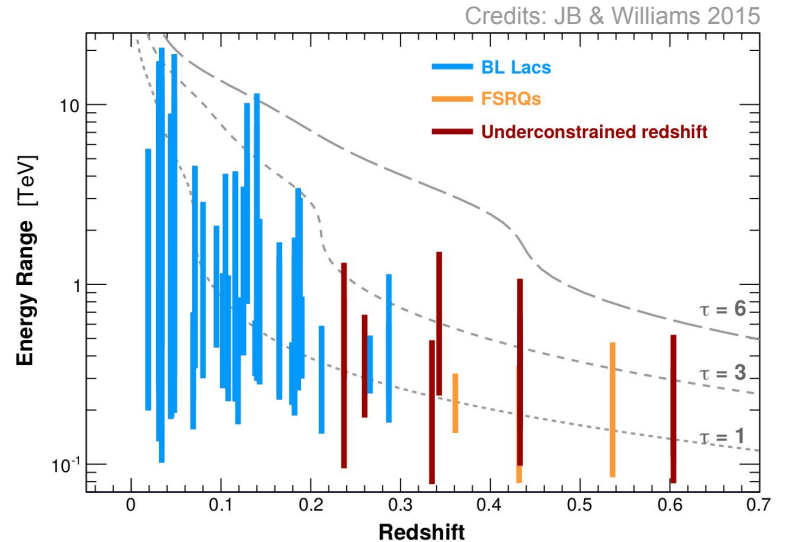
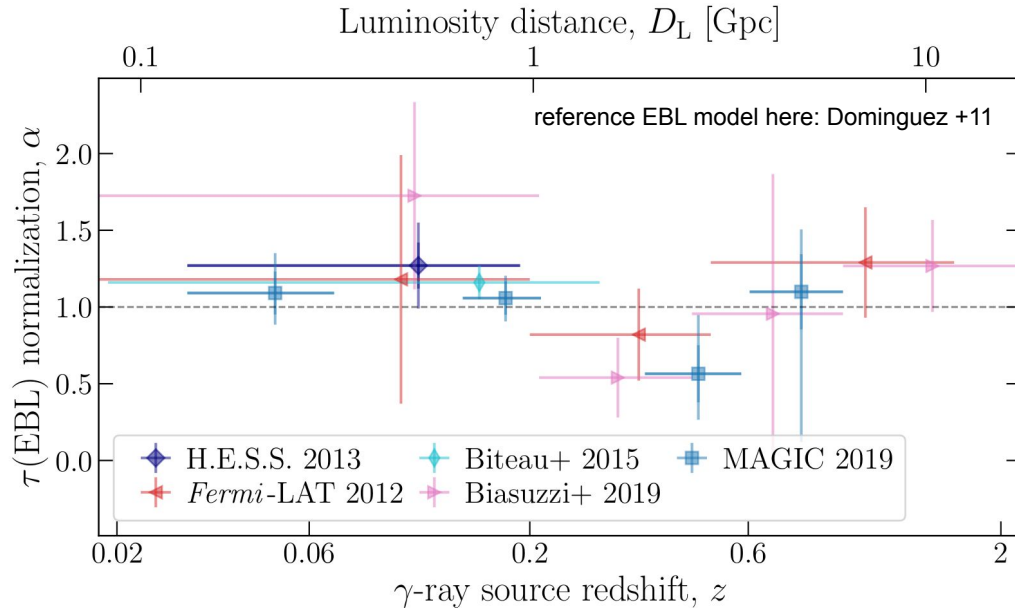
here Gilmore+ 12



# Status: gamma-ray inference vs model

**Model:**  $\Phi(E, z) = \Phi_{\text{int}}(E | \theta_{\text{int}}) \exp(-\alpha \tau(E, z))$ , applied to spectra of AGN/GRBs with  $E > 100$  GeV... and  $z$ :

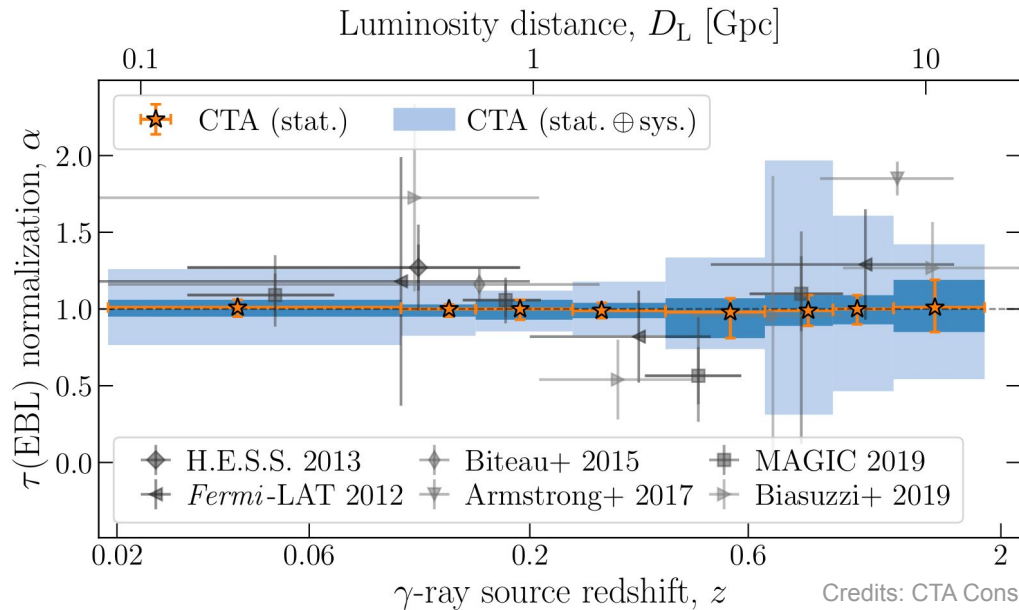
- Ground-based: ~80% of spectroscopic  $z \rightarrow$  **only a third / half of current data used so far!**
- Space-based: ~40% of spectro.  $z$  @  $E > 30$  GeV (see P. Goldoni's  $z$ -catalog at [this link](#))



# Expectations from CTA

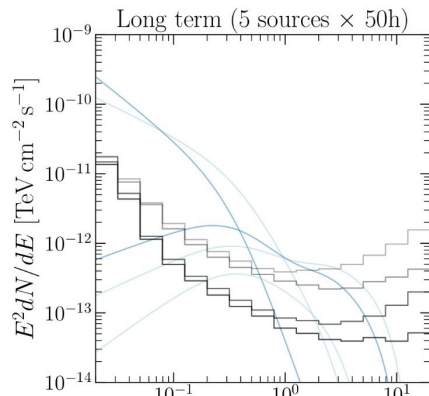
## Reconstructed EBL level wrt to a reference model

- Out to  $z \sim 2$ , with at least five spectra per bin
- Uncertainty down to  $\pm 5\%_{\text{stat}} \pm 12\%_{\text{sys}}$  (vs.  $\pm 20\%_{\text{stat}} \pm 20\%_{\text{sys}}$  today)



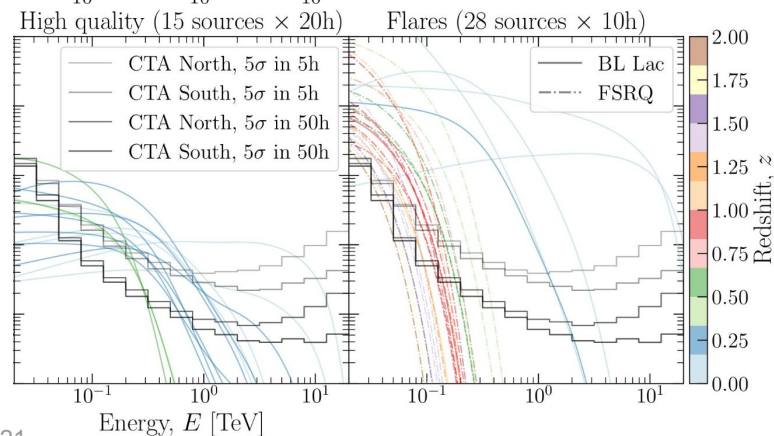
Credits: CTA Consortium 2021

J. Biteau



## Simulated dataset

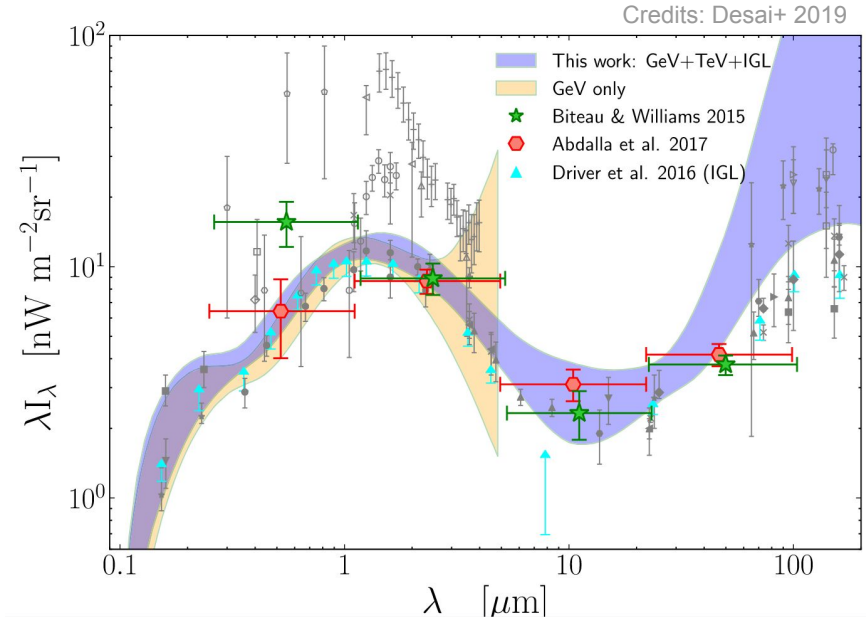
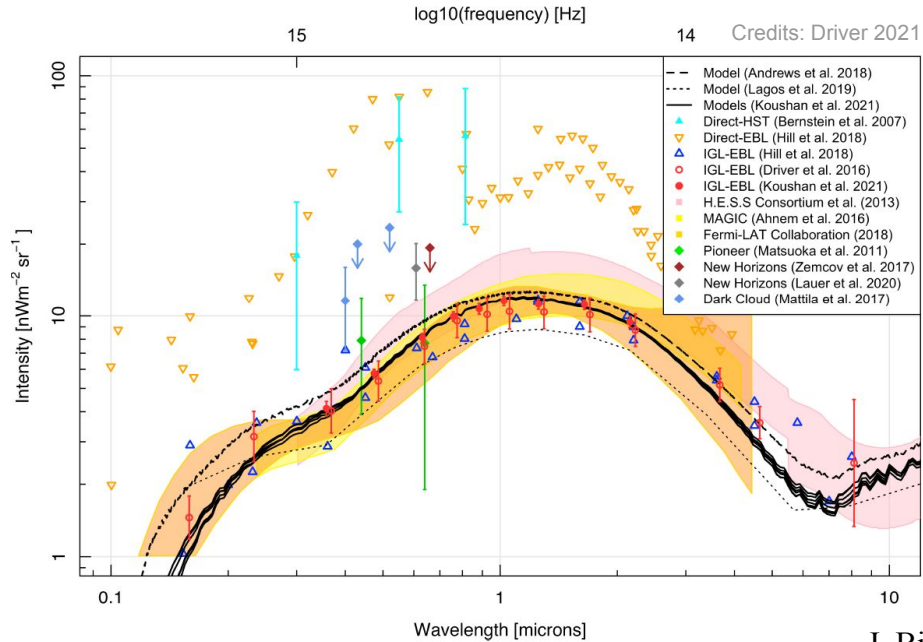
- > 800h of observations
- Realistic spectra from current-generation GeV-TeV observatories
- Systematics: min-max allowed IRFs



# Wavelength-resolved measurements from $\gamma$ -ray spectra

## Direct measurements vs galaxy counts... and the $\gamma$ -ray referee?

- $\gamma$ -ray “specific” intensity around  $0.6\mu\text{m}$ :  $< 15\text{-}25 \text{ nW m}^{-2} \text{ sr}^{-1}$  (JB+ 2015, HESS 2017, VERITAS 2019, MAGIC 2019)
- Galaxy counts / Direct measurements @  $0.6\mu\text{m}$ :  $8.1 \pm 0.3 \text{ nW m}^{-2} \text{ sr}^{-1}$  (Koushan+ 2021) /  $16 \pm 4 \text{ nW m}^{-2} \text{ sr}^{-1}$  (Lauer+ 2020)

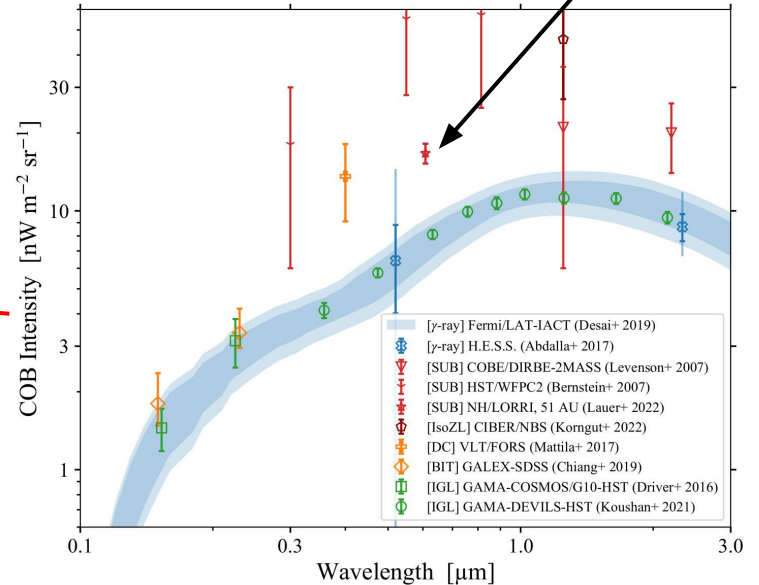
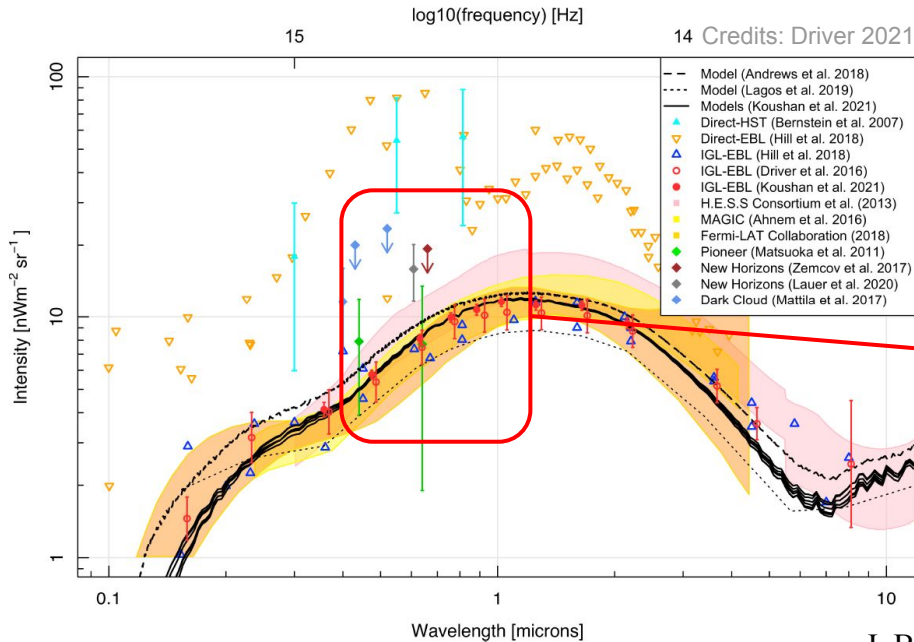
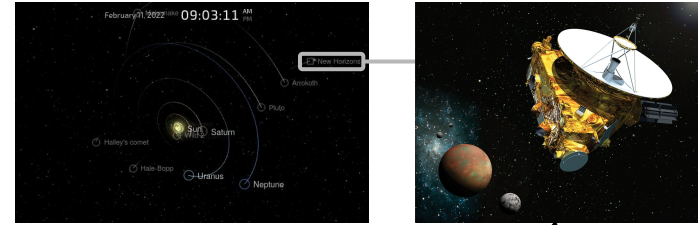


# The “optical controversy”

Spacecrafts out of the Solar System at [this link](#)

## Recent news: New Horizons / LORRI

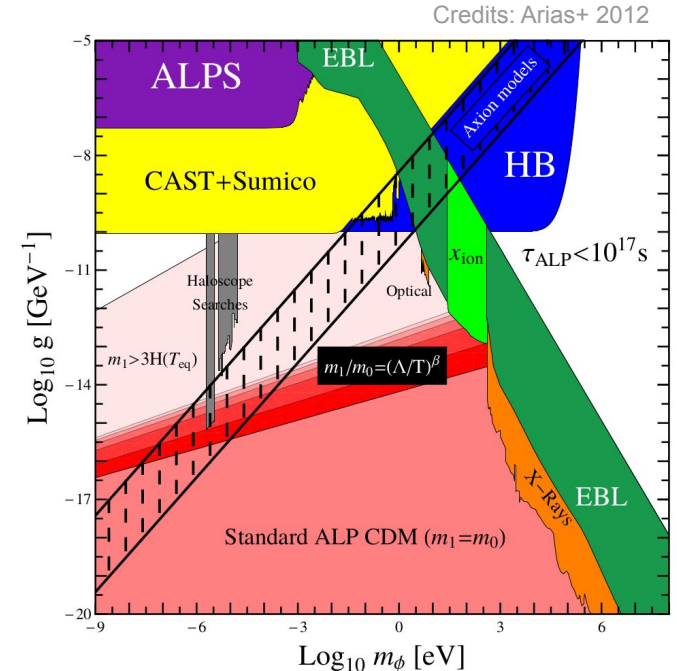
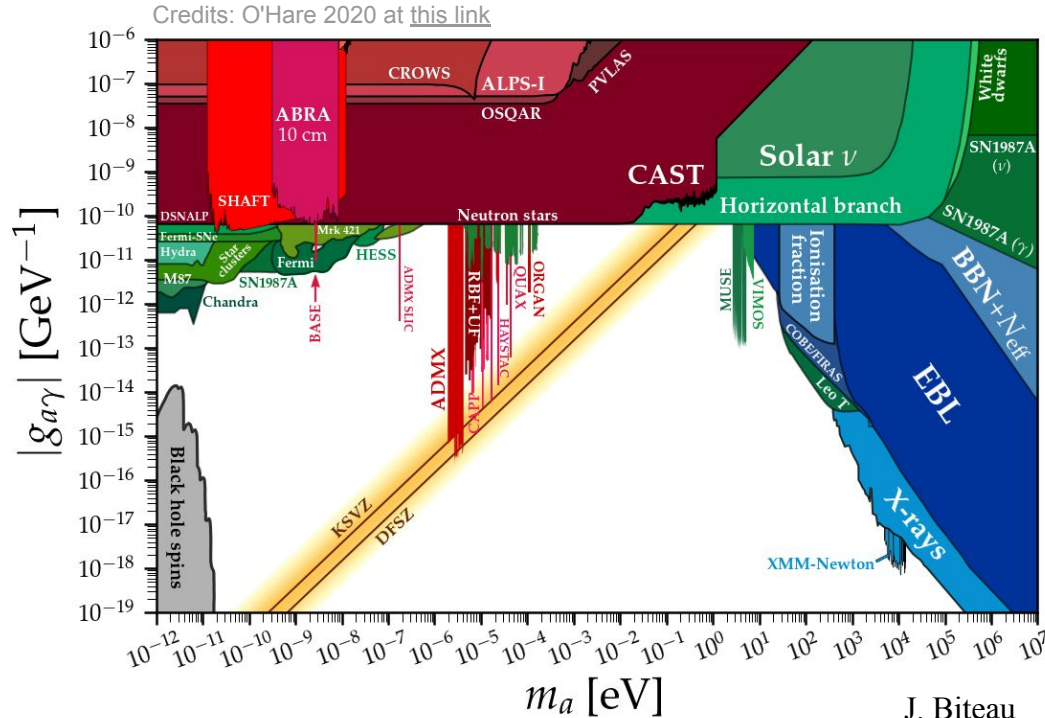
- Darkest, reliable field:  $16.4 \pm 1.5 \text{ nW m}^{-2} \text{ sr}^{-1}$  (Lauer+ 2022)
- If of extragalactic origin: galaxy counts = half of EBL @  $0.6 \mu\text{m}$



# Constraints on decaying axions

## Exotic contributions to the night-sky brightness?

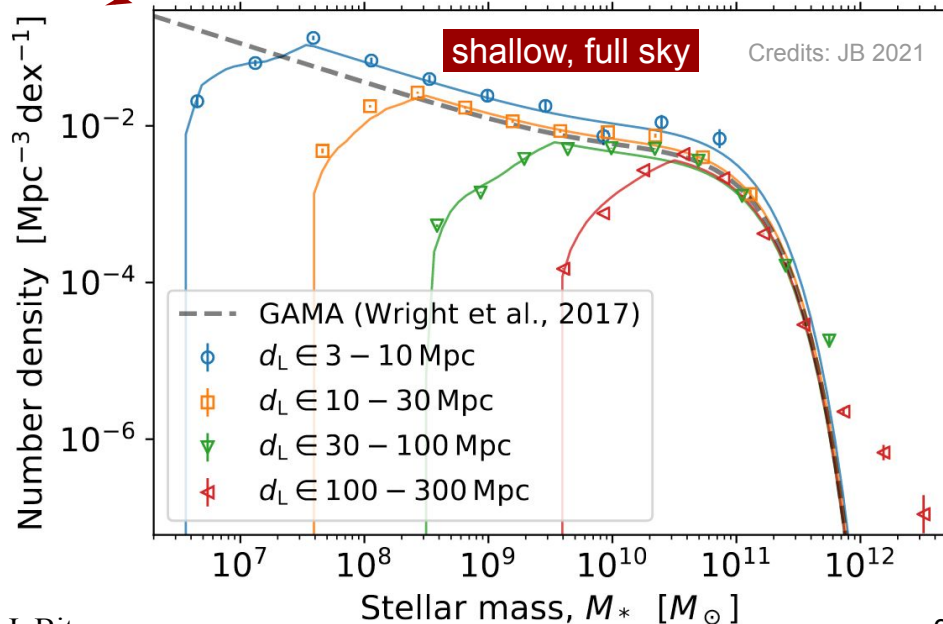
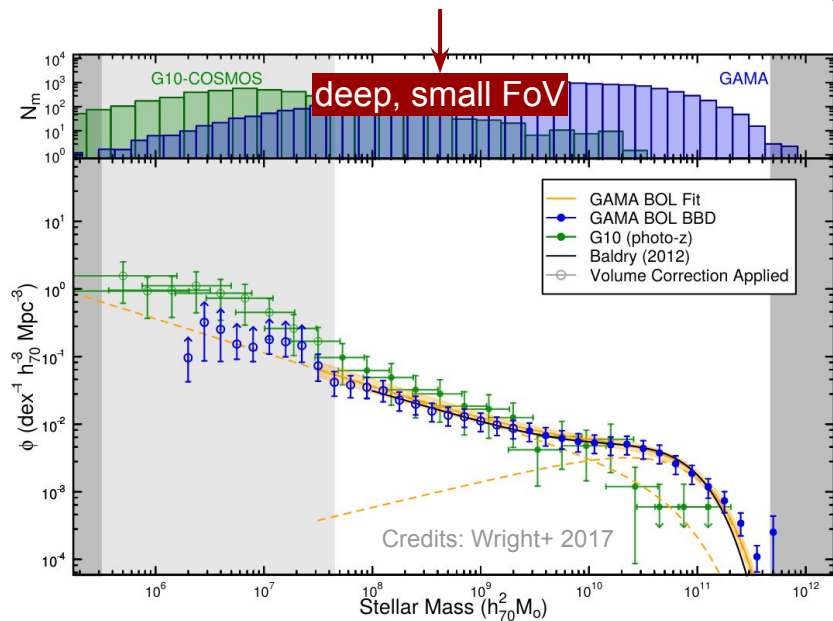
- Top-down process: decay of heavy (eV) axion-like particles (unlikely DM explanation though, Nakayama & Yin 2022) .



# Constraints on faint galaxies / halo light

Have we resolved **only half the optical light in the Universe?**

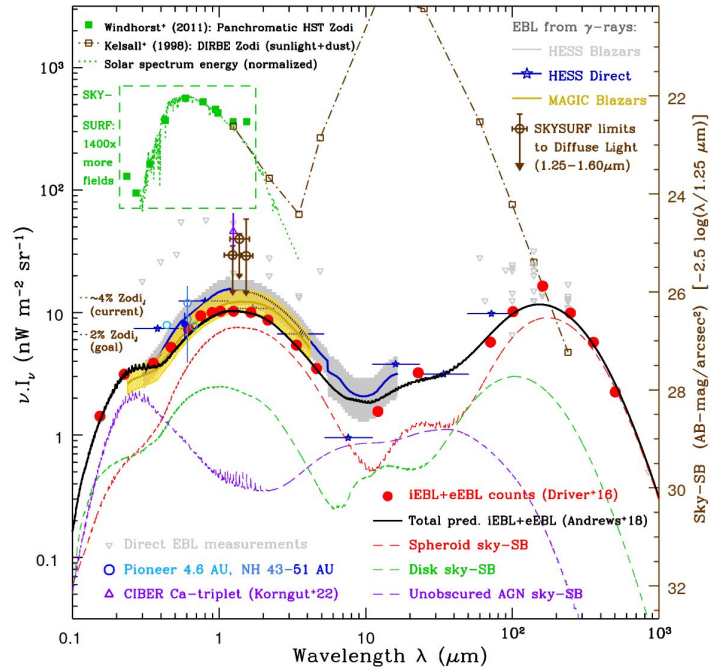
- K-band ( $2.2\mu\text{m}$ ) = Stellar mass (old & young stars within containment radius)
- Down to  $\sim 10^7 M_\odot$  at  $z \sim 0.1$  and in the local Universe. **Low mass, high z, large radii?**



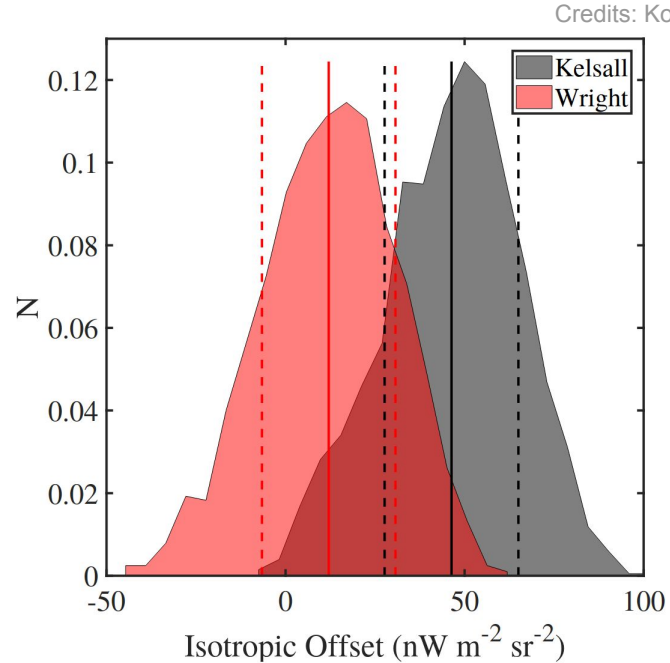
# A new Inter-Planetary Dust component?

## Spherical cloud of cometary dust (Kuiper Belt, Oort Cloud)?

- Ca II observations by CIBER rocket and SKYSURF reanalysis of HST data → reassessment of ZL models needed?

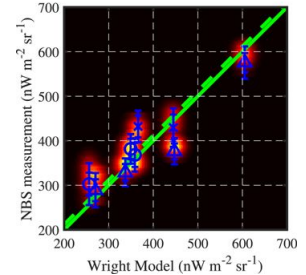
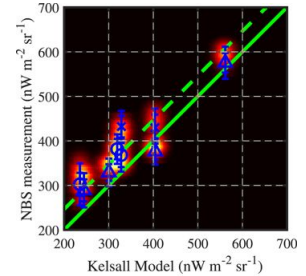


Credits: Carleton+ 2022 (HST / SKYSURF)



J. Biteau

Credits: Korngut+ 2022 (CIBER / NBS)





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# Current status & looking ahead

# Status of $\gamma$ -ray propagation

## Absorption on EBL: precision and validity?

•  $\pm 20\%_{\text{stat}} \pm 20\%_{\text{sys}} \rightarrow \pm 5\%_{\text{stat}} \pm 12\%_{\text{sys}}$  (CTA 2021)

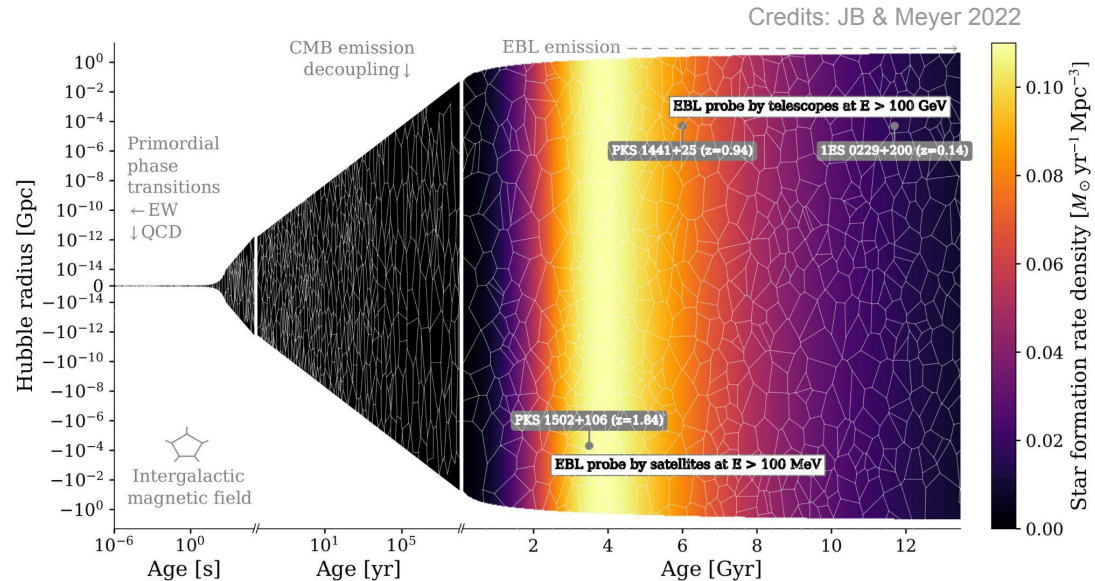
- Impact of intrinsic emission model?  
⇒ ongoing: fully Bayesian approach to tackle intrinsic and instrument-induced uncertainties

## Evolution of the EBL?

- CTA: EBL evolution out to  $z \sim 2$   
⇒ Cosmic SFR with better precision than *Fermi*-LAT? (*Fermi*-LAT 2018)
- ⇒ Accuracy on  $H_0$ ? (Dominguez+ 2019)

## Where are the secondaries?

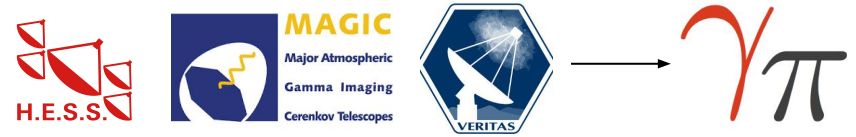
- Lead hypothesis: magnetic fields in voids  
⇒ primordial phase transitions? structure formation?
- Challenger: plasma instabilities in pair beam (Broderick+ 2012)  
⇒ numerical challenge with unsettled status (Vafin+ 2018)



# Addressing the optical controversy before CTA?

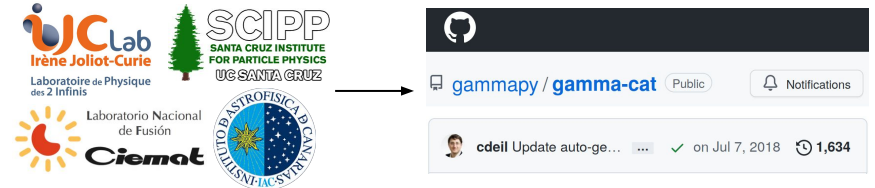
## Event-level data from current generation

- Sharing of datasets and instrument response  
⇒ natural way to account e.g. for energy resolution
- Hard (politically) but **certainly the best!**



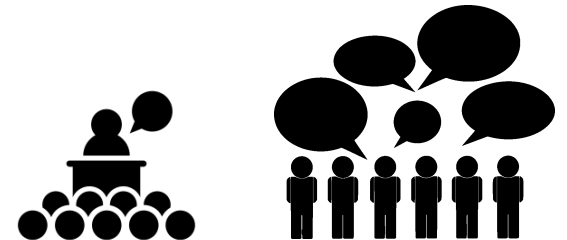
## Archival spectral data from current & past

- All published extragalactic TeV spectral points  
⇒ exported to **gamma-cat** format (**to be revived?**)
- More modest effort: Gamma 2022 (Gréaux+, IJCLab)

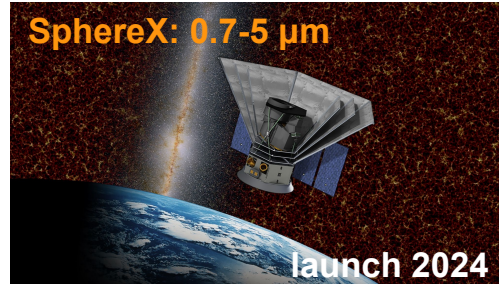
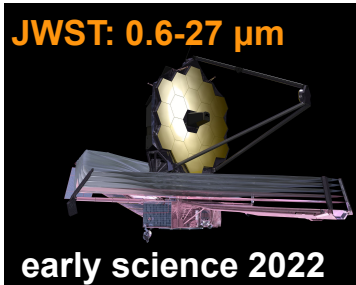


## The three communities around a single table?

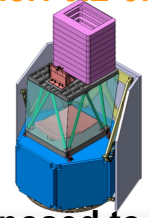
- New  $4\sigma$  evidence from direct observation beyond Pluto
- New 5%-resolution measurement of galaxy counts
- Upcoming TeV measurement with 2-3× previous archival data  
⇒ **EBL workshop (3-5 days) in Paris area in 2023/24?**



# Gamma-ray cosmology in the upcoming CTA era



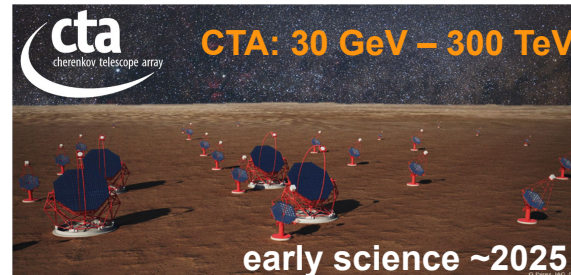
**Messier: 0.2-0.9  $\mu\text{m}$**



**proposed to ESA-F**

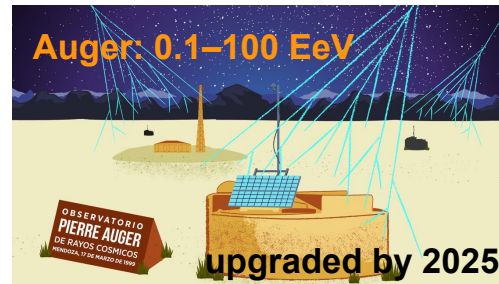
## Light in voids and faint galaxies

- Low-end of the galaxy luminosity function
- Redshift surveys  $\cap$  Broadband intensity mapping
- Low-surface brightness universe
- Gamma-ray absorption



## Cosmic magnetism

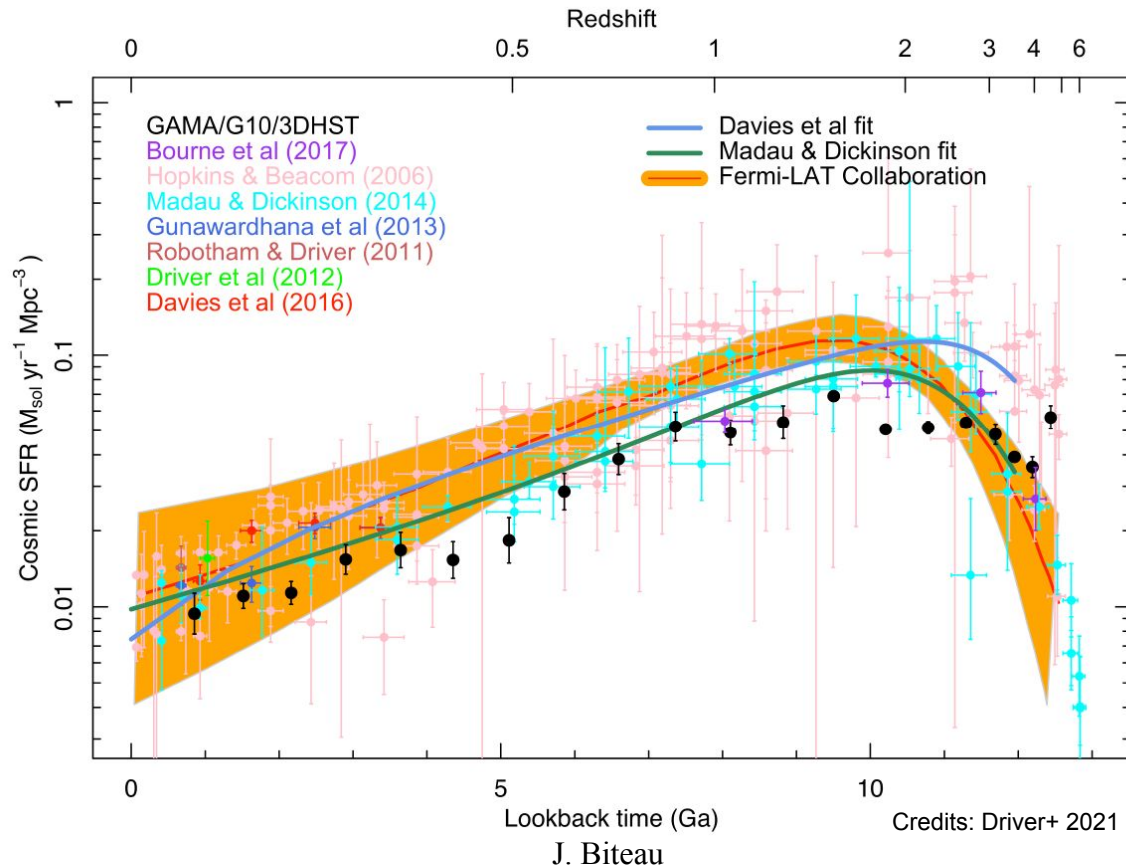
- Gamma-ray halo and spectral bump
- UHECR deflections in the cosmic web
- Synchrotron mapping and Faraday rotation



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# Backup

# Cosmic star-formation history



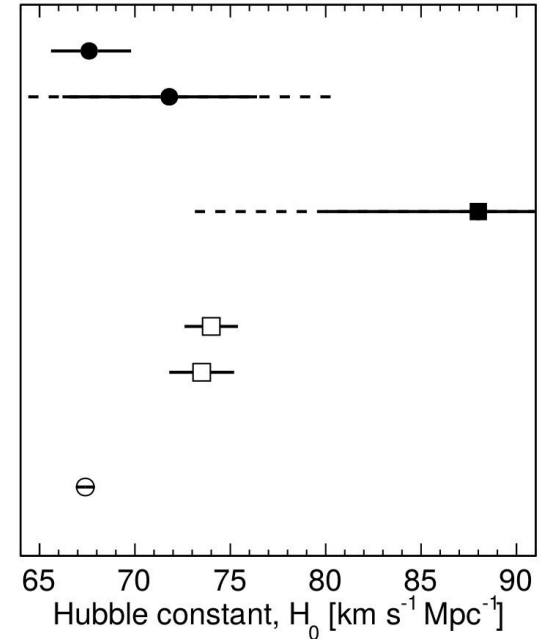
# Hubble constant

$\gamma$ -ray / CSFH (Dominguez+ '13, '19)

$\gamma$ -ray / local EBL (Biteau+ '15)

Distance ladder (Riess+ '18, '19)

CMB (Planck Collaboration '18)



Credits: Pueschel & JB 2021

## How to:

$$F_{\text{obs}}(E) = F_{\text{emitted}}(E(1+z_0)) \times \exp[-\tau_{\gamma\gamma}(E, z_0)]$$

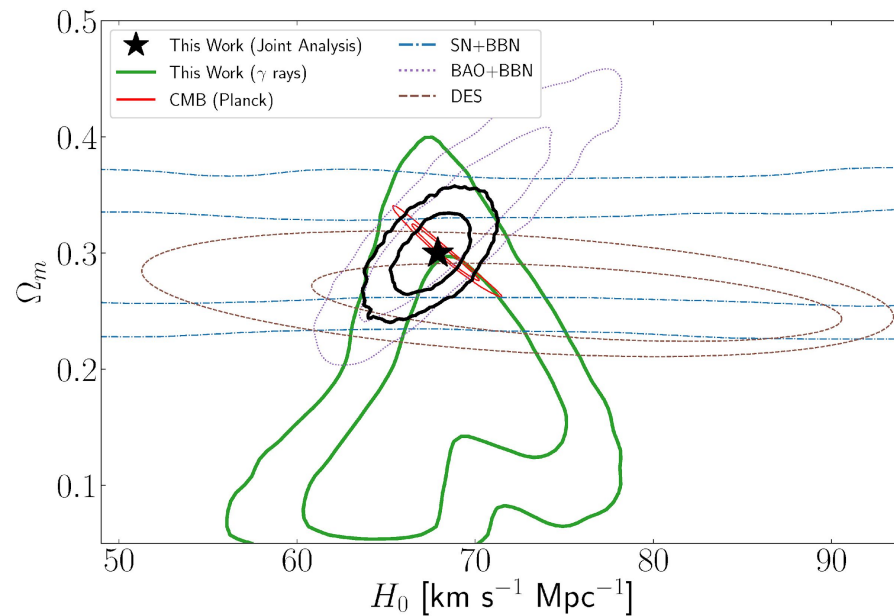
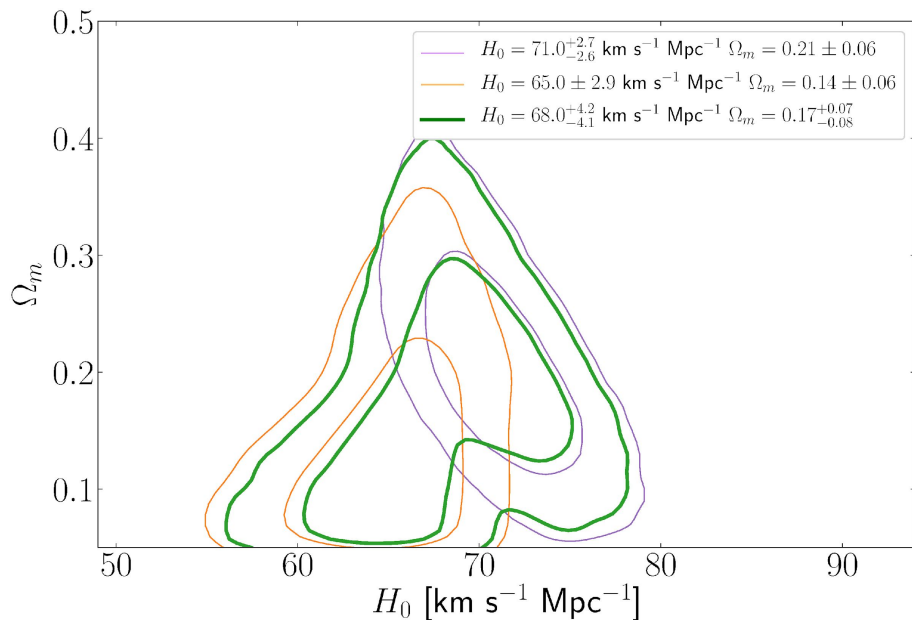
$$\tau_{\gamma\gamma}(E, z_0) = \int_0^{z_0} \Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}^{-1}(E(1+z), z) \frac{d\ell(z)}{dz} dz$$

$$\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}^{-1}(E', z) = \int_0^\infty d\epsilon' \frac{dn(\epsilon', z)}{d\epsilon'} \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta' \frac{1 - \cos\theta'}{2} \sigma_{\gamma\gamma}(\beta') \Theta(\epsilon' - \epsilon'_{\text{th}})$$

$$\partial n / \partial \epsilon = (1+z)^3 / c \times \int_z^\infty dz' d\ell / dz' \times j(\epsilon', z') / \epsilon'$$

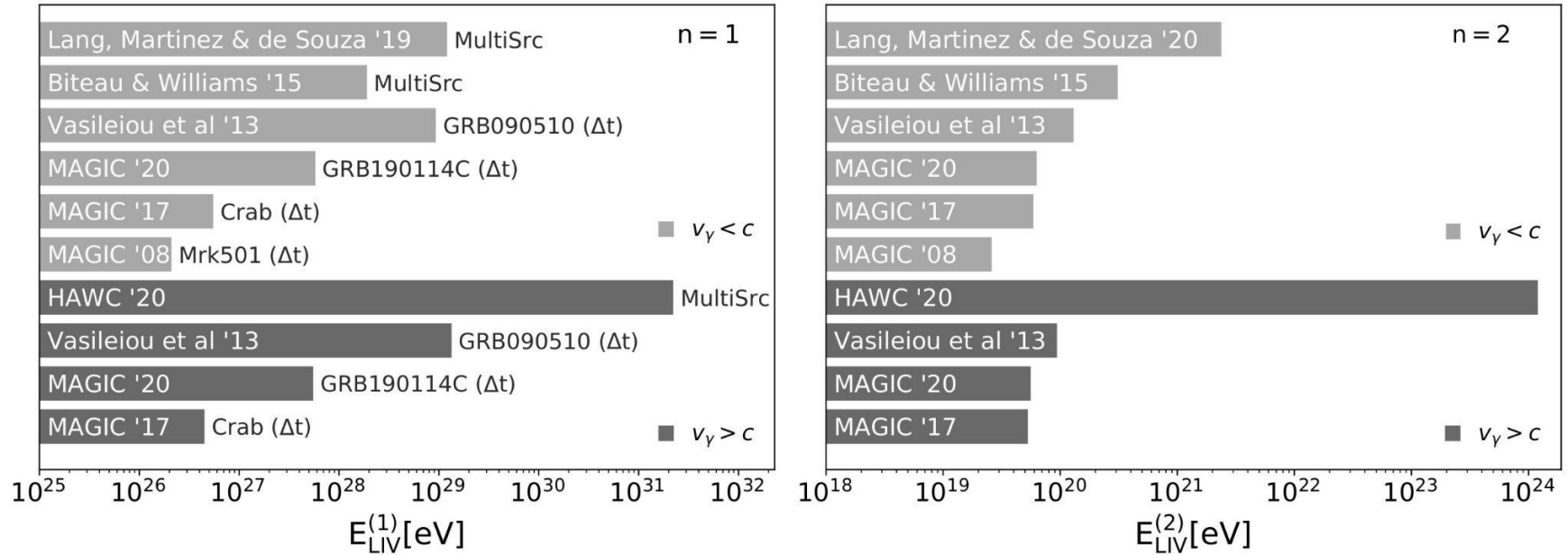
# Hubble constant: $\gamma$ -ray inference

Dominguez et al. 2019



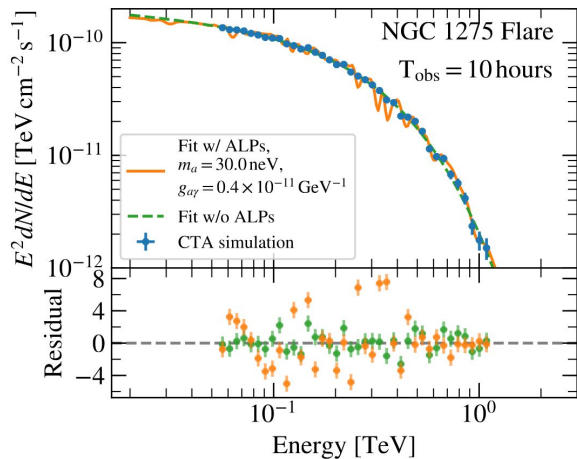


# Lorentz invariance violation: status

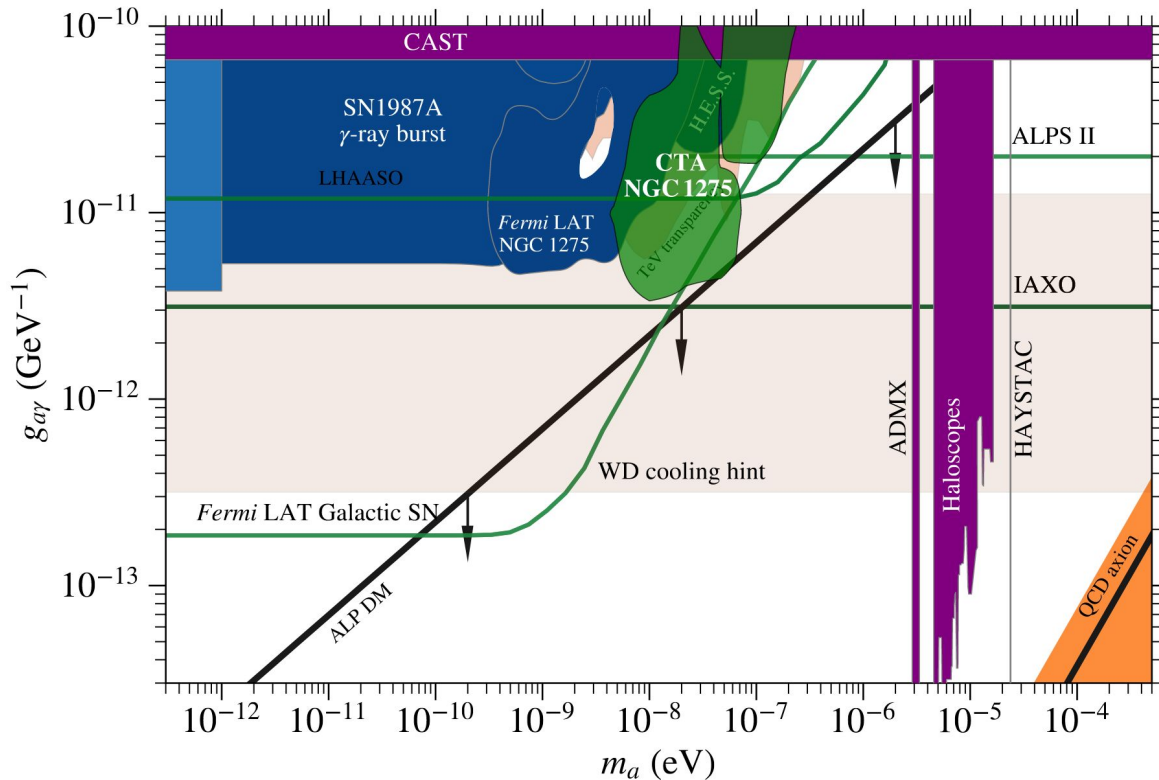


Credits: H. Martinez-Huerta  
in Pueschel & JB 2021

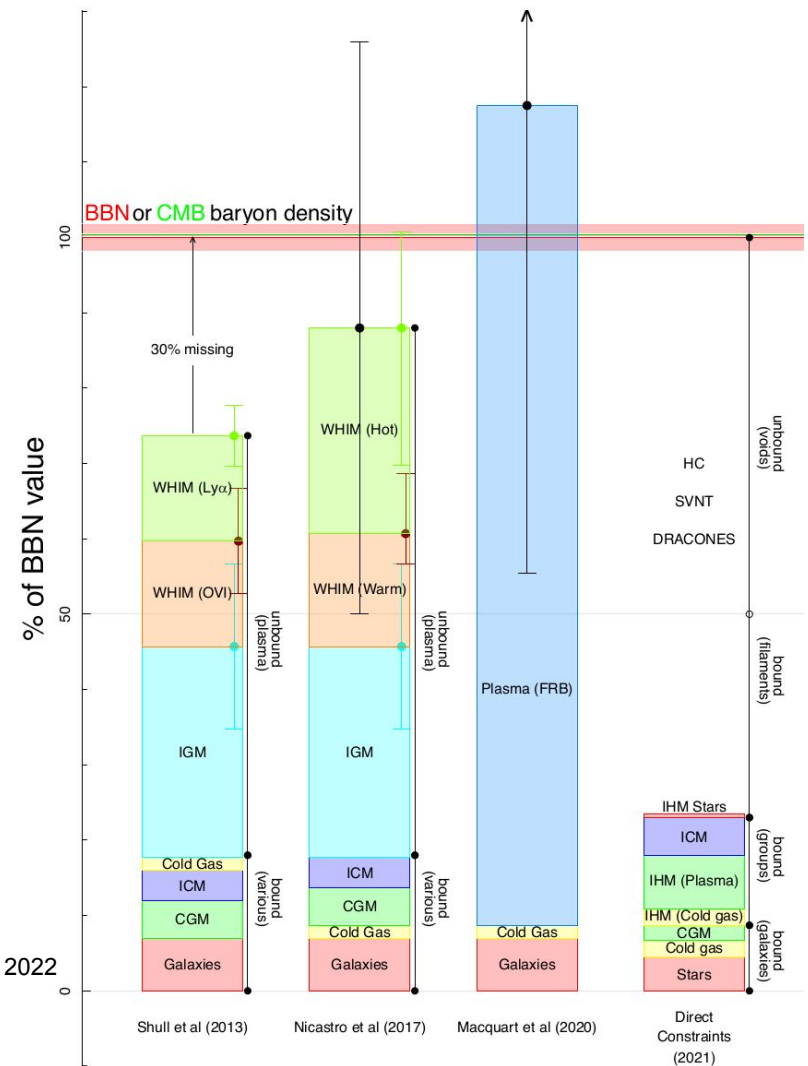
# Axion-like particles: perspectives



CTA Consortium 2020



# Missing baryons



Credits: Driver 2022

# The multi-wavelength and multi-messenger night skies

## The “gentle” universe

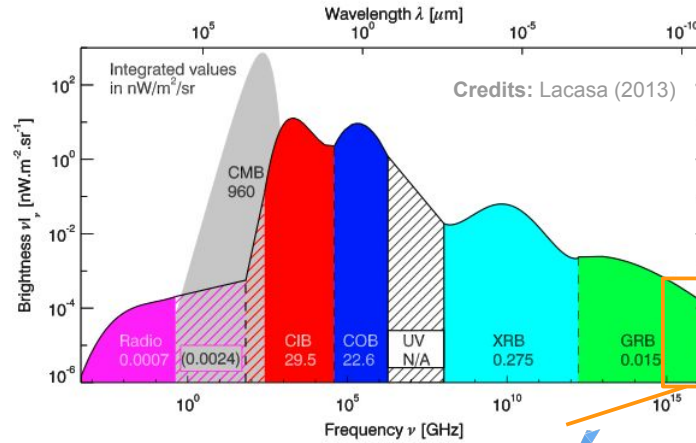
Cosmic Microwave, Infrared and Optical Backgrounds

→ 6 energy decades covered

## The “violent” universe

From gravitational waves to ultra-high energy cosmic rays

→ 35 energy decades covered

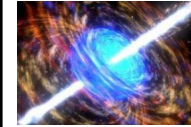


## How violent does it get?

### LHC

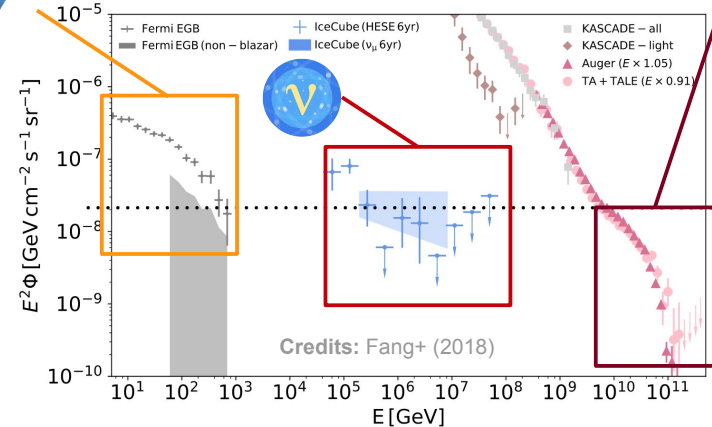
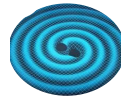
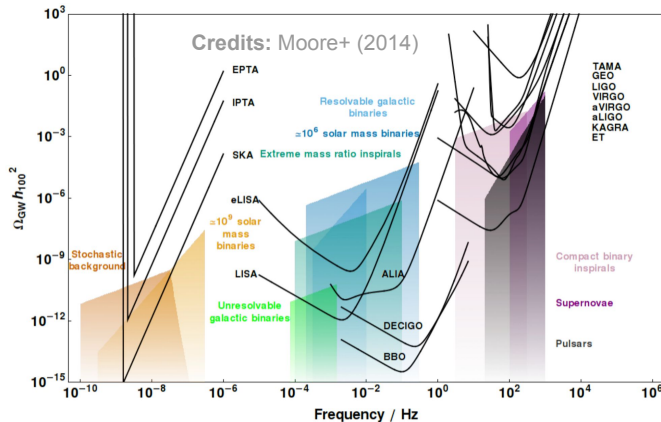


$E_{\text{max}} \sim 10^{13}$  eV  
rate  $\sim 10^{19}$  part./sec



### Most extreme sources

$E_{\text{max}} \sim 10^{20}$  eV  
rate  $\sim 10^{31}$  part./sec



# The quest for UHECR origins

## Ultra-high energy cosmic rays (UHECR)

Long thought to be of **extragalactic origin > 5 EeV** (0.8 J!), marking the **ankle**

Observed spectral features: **instep at 10-15 EeV**, **toe at 40-50 EeV**

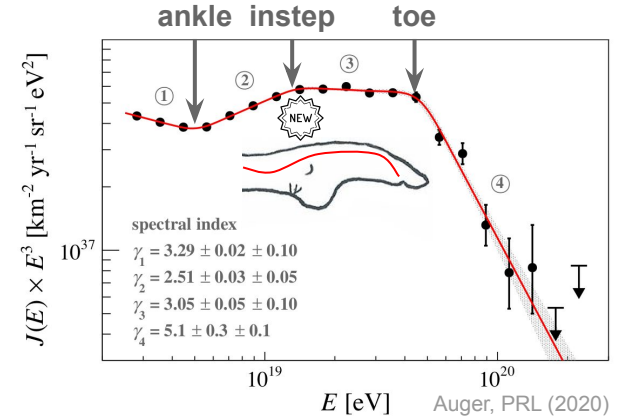
→ markers of Peters cycle (**acceleration**) and UHECR horizon (**propagation**) based on joint spectral-composition modeling

**Spectral and composition observables** integrated over the sphere

→ help constrain **source distance** distribution & source **escape spectrum**

**Anisotropy observables**

→ break down the flux (and composition) vs **arrival direction: pinpoint sources?**



## Who Is Shooting Superfast Particles at the Earth?

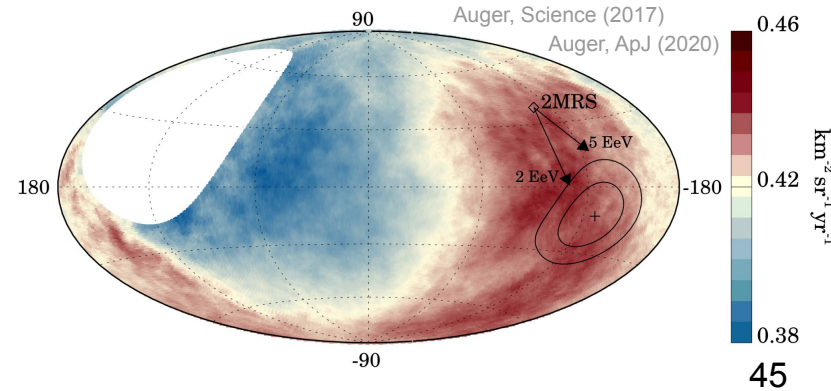
In Which You Learn That Space Is Full of Tiny Bullets



Credits: Jorge Cham & Daniel Whiteson

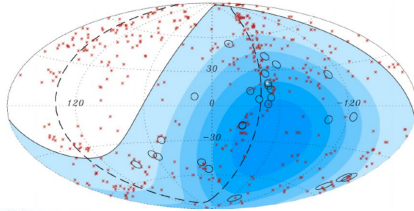


## Auger dipole > 8 EeV (>6σ)



# Some landmarks in Auger anisotropy studies

Auger, Science 2007

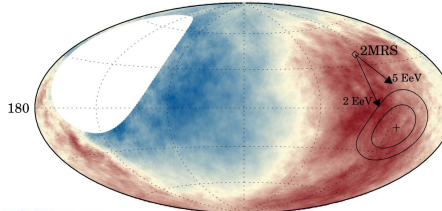


## First steps: hint

20 out of 27 evts within  $3^\circ$  of nearby galaxies  $\rightarrow \sim 3\sigma$   
 10 evts in particular clustered in the **Centaurus region**

$\sim 27$  evts  $\geq 57$  EeV

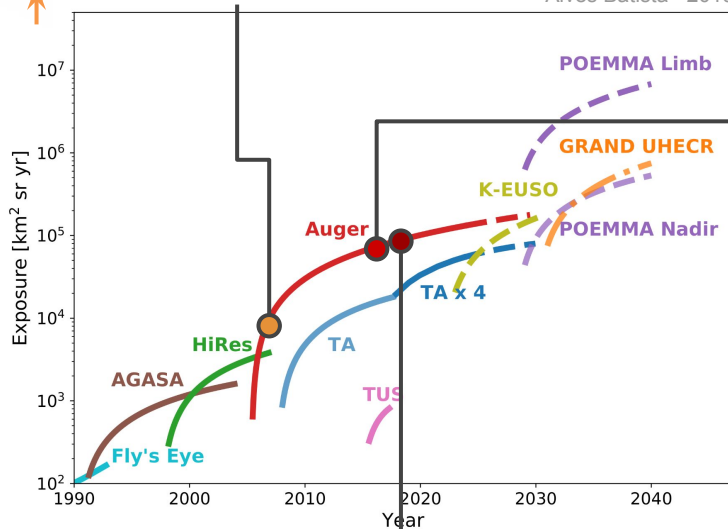
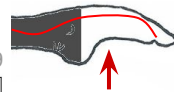
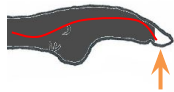
Auger, Science 2017



## Maturity: discovery

**$6\sigma$  dipolar-like flux**  
 In line with nearby **galaxy stellar mass distribution (2MRS)**

$\sim 32,000$  evts  $\geq 8$  EeV

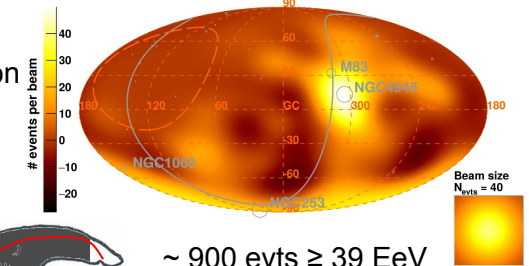


## Revival: a trail?

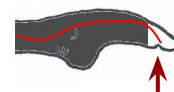
**$4\sigma$  evidence** for correlation with nearby **starforming galaxies**

$3\sigma$  level for other types of galaxies

Auger, ApJL 2018



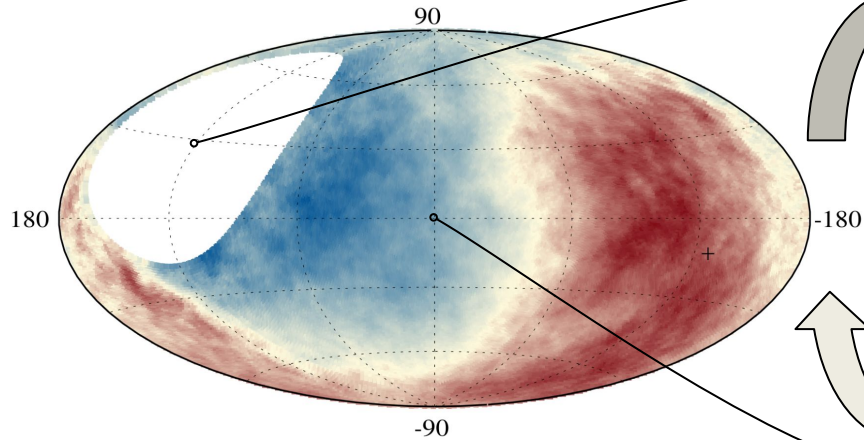
$\sim 900$  evts  $\geq 39$  EeV



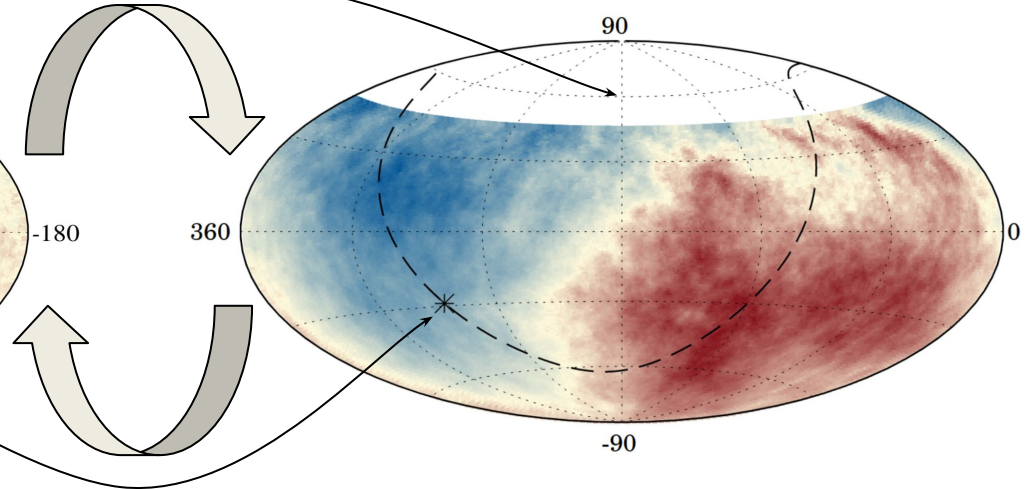
# ! skymaps in next slide !

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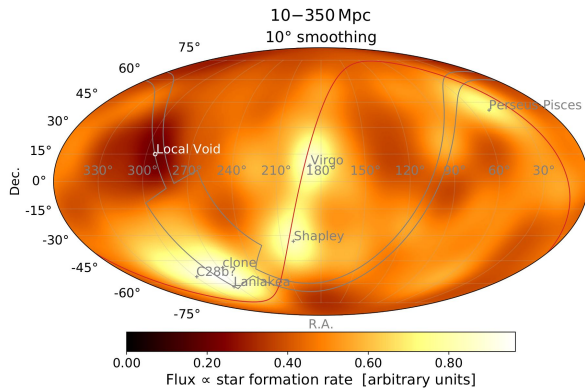
Galactic coordinate system



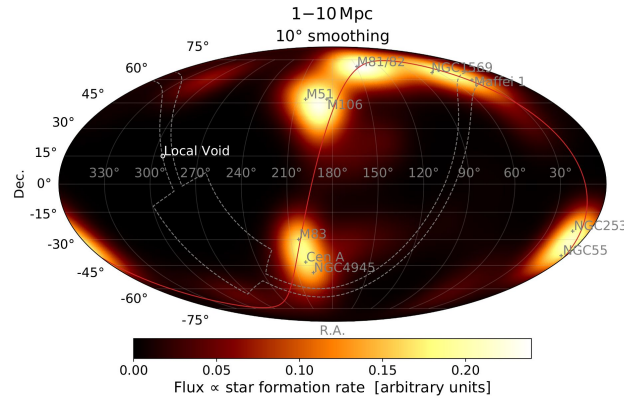
Equatorial coordinate system



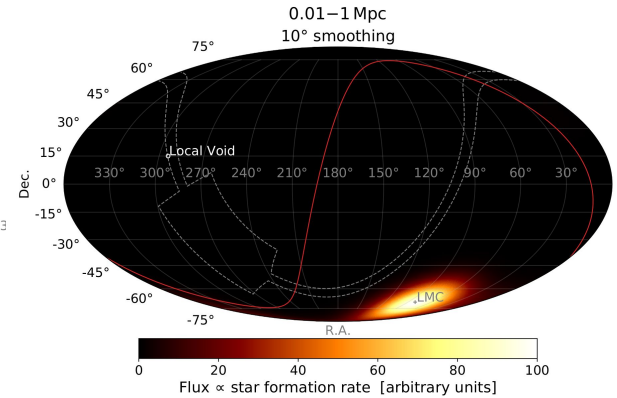
# Mapping of SFR on the sphere



**UHE sky around the instep**

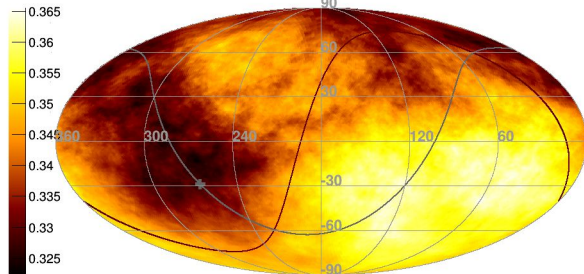


**UHE sky around the toe**

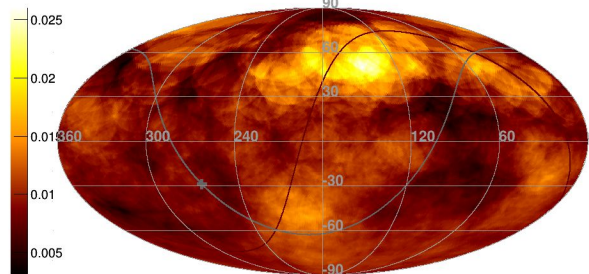


**SFR sky vs UHE sky**

$\Phi(E_{\text{Auger/TA}} > 8.86/10 \text{ EeV})$  [ $\text{km}^{-2} \text{sr}^{-1} \text{yr}^{-1}$ ] - Equatorial coordinates - R



$\Phi(E_{\text{Auger/TA}} > 40/53.2 \text{ EeV})$  [ $\text{km}^{-2} \text{sr}^{-1} \text{yr}^{-1}$ ] - Equatorial coordinates - R = 20°



- Local Universe:
  - Local Void ~ UHE underdensity ✓
  - Local clusters and supercluster hardly seen at UHE ✗
  - UHECR can't escape B++
- Local Sheet ~ UHE toe region ✓
- LMC not seen at UHE ✗
- intrahalo bursts too short to be seen, missed most of the time



# The largest UHECR observatory ever built

## The Pierre Auger Observatory

West Argentina at 1,400m a.s.l., **spread over 3,000 km<sup>2</sup>** (~ Luxembourg or Rhode Island)

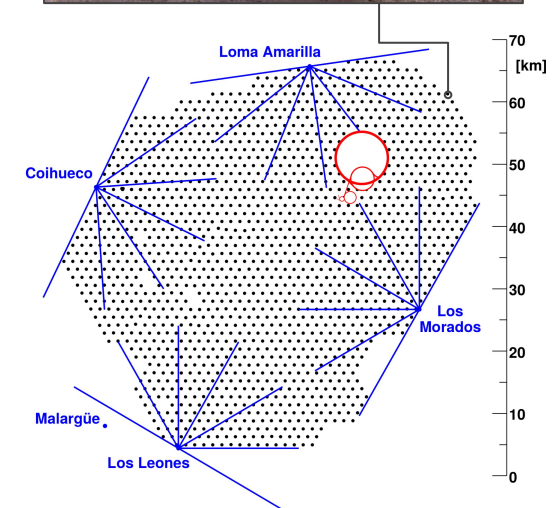
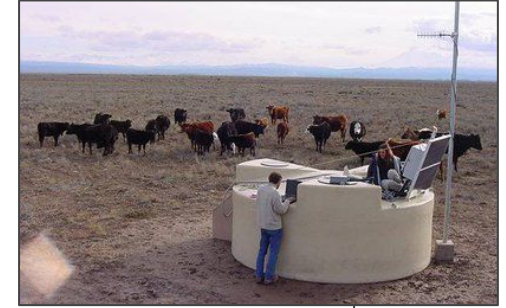
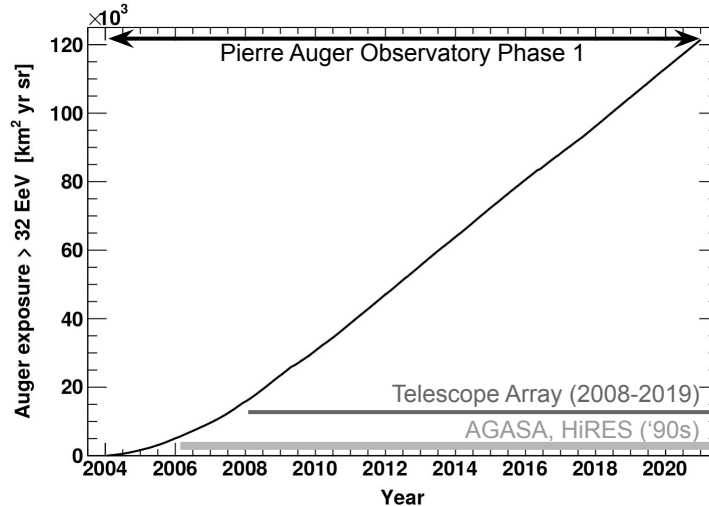
1600 water Cherenkov detectors (12t each) to measure secondary particles in air showers

→ **85% of the sky covered** with angular resolution  $< 1^\circ$  above the ankle

Exposure at the highest energies (loosest cuts): **120,000 km<sup>2</sup> yr sr in 2004-2020**

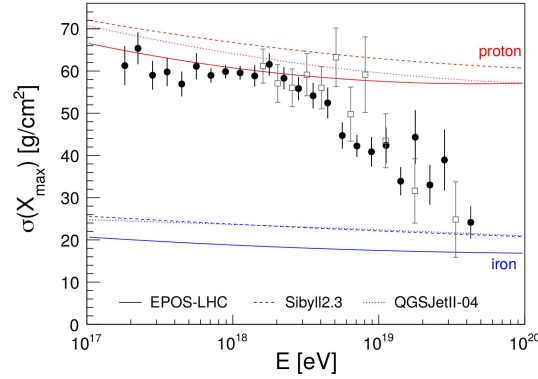
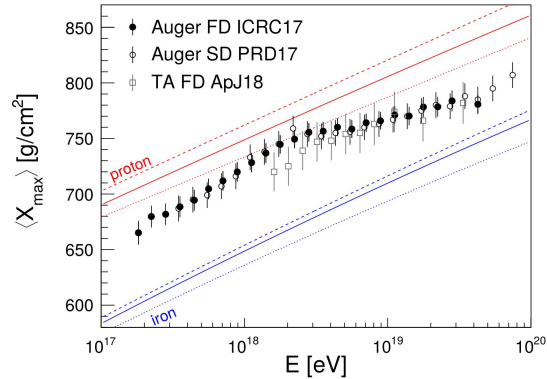
→ **40-70x larger than previous generation** experiments (AGASA, HiRES)

→ **9x larger than complementary Northern hemisphere** experiment (Telescope Array)

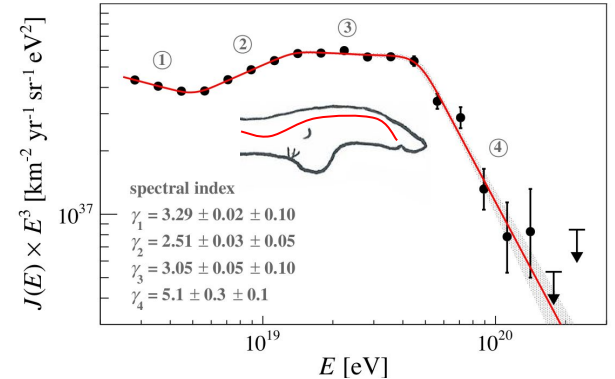


# UHECR observables

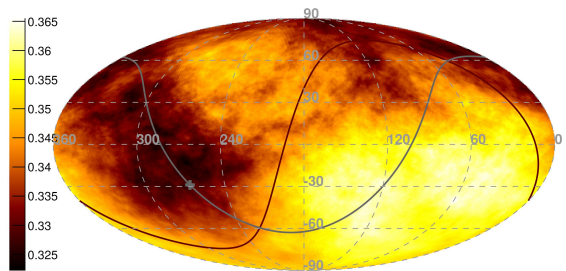
Alves Batista+, Front.Astron.Space Sci. 6 (2019) 23



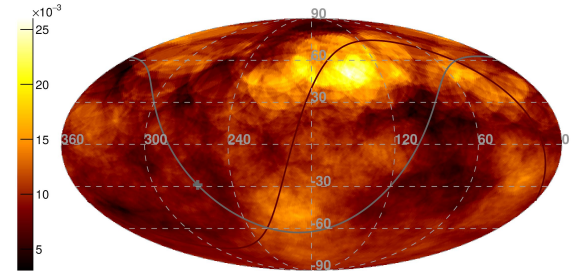
Auger, PRL 125, 121106 (2020)



$\Phi(E_{\text{Auger/TA}} > 8.86/10 \text{ EeV})$  [km<sup>-2</sup> sr<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>] - Equatorial coordinates - R = 45°

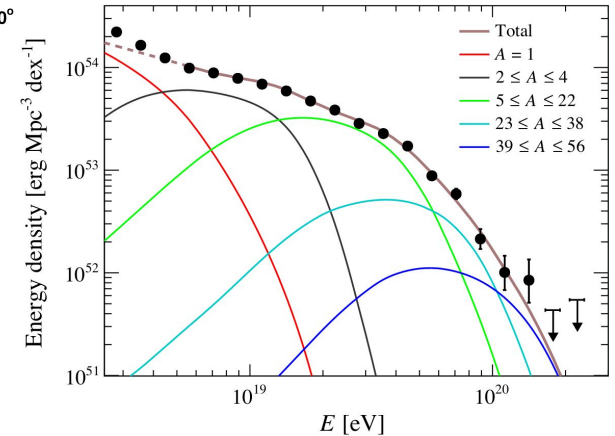


$\Phi(E_{\text{Auger/TA}} > 40/53.2 \text{ EeV})$  [km<sup>-2</sup> sr<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>] - Equatorial coordinates - R = 20°



Biteau+ for Auger & Telescope Array Collab., EPJ Web Conf., 210:01005, 2019

**Multi-dimensional UHECR flux dependences: energy, composition, direction**



# Cosmic-ray observations

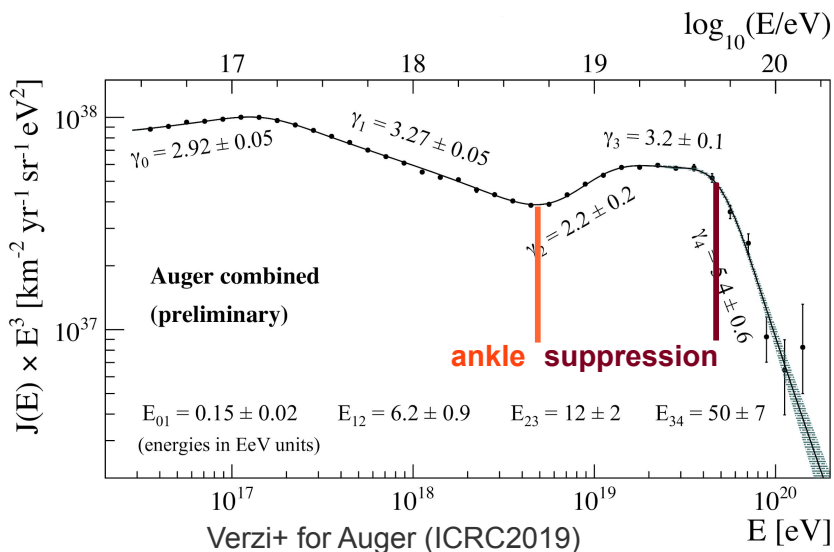
## The dip model: pure protons Berezinski (2006)

Attempt to explain the ankle and suppression with a purely proton composition

→ quite successful at reproducing the spectrum

down to  $\sim 10^{18}$  eV

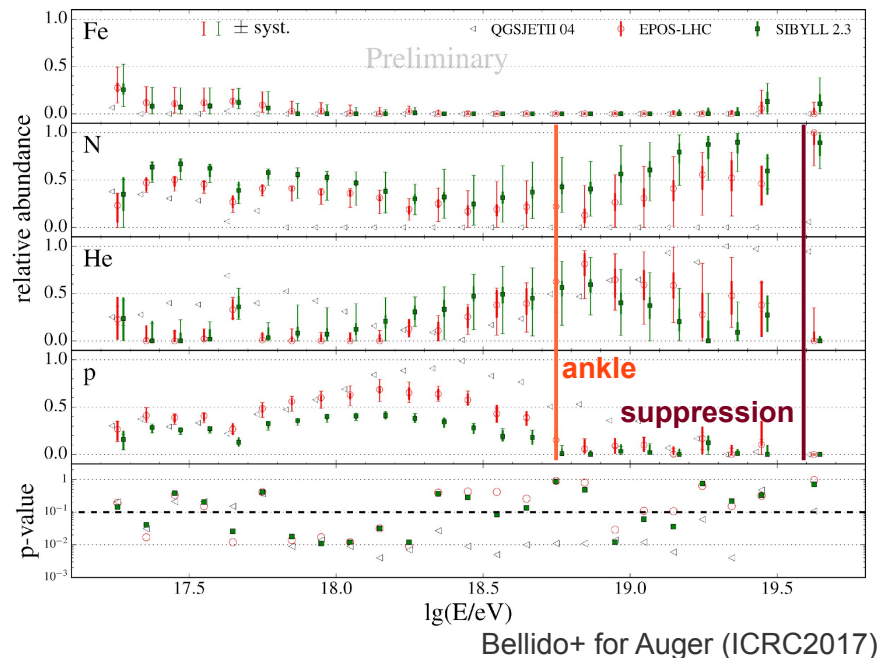
→ based on pure protons



## But mixed composition

Inference:  $p \rightarrow \text{He} \rightarrow \text{CNO}$  sequence

→ in line with  $E_{\text{max}} \sim \text{a few EeV} \times (Z \text{ or } A)$



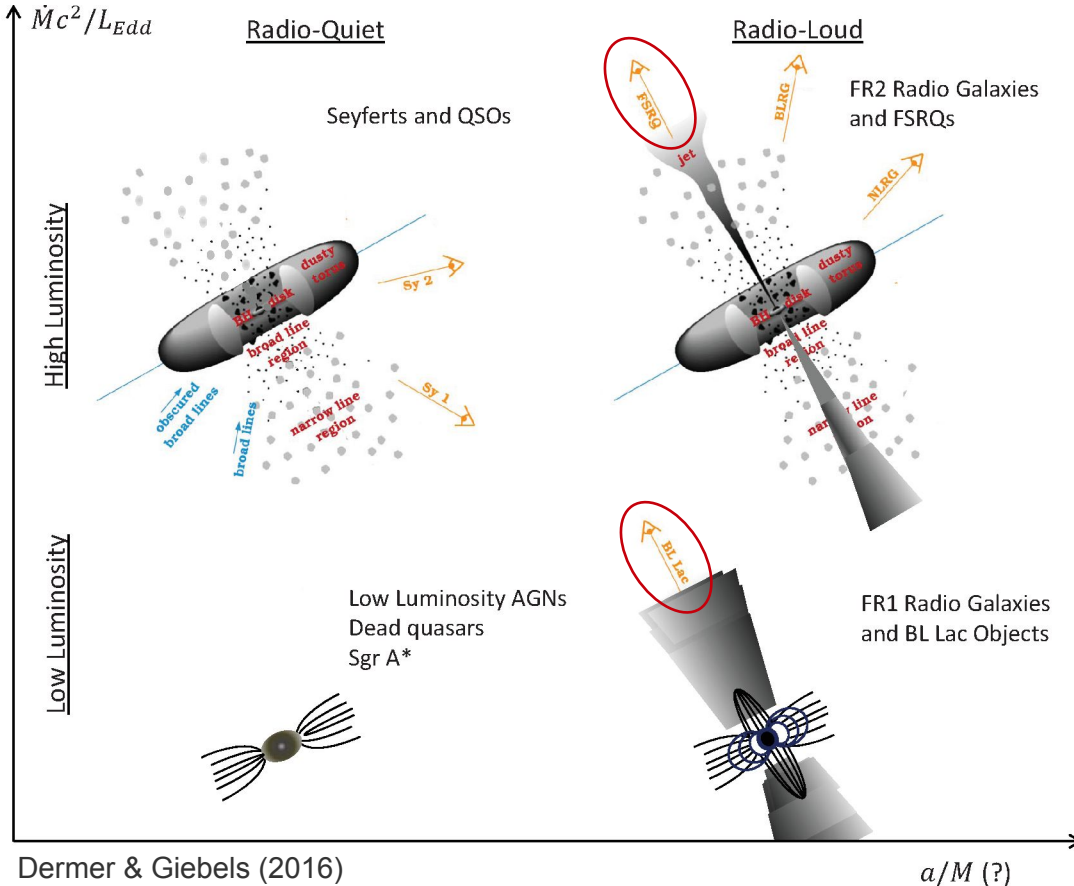
# Extreme blazars

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See JB+ 2020

# The various flavors of AGN



## AGN unification scheme

Antonucci (1993), Urry & Padovani (1995)

• AGN composed of

- Black hole (billion Msun)
- Accretion disk + torus
- Broad-line regions reprocess ~10% of disk emission
- (Jets)

• Jets: high black hole spin?

• Viewing angle → observed properties  
 e.g. blazars = radio galaxies with jets along line of sight

• Blazars: ideal probes of jet physics

- FSRQs (strong emission lines) = high accretion rate
- BL Lacs (weak emission lines) = low accretion rate

# Some of Fermi's lessons on blazars

## Detections

- 2863 sources at  $|b| > 10^\circ$  4LAC, Fermi-LAT 2019
  - > 79% are AGNs
    - ~98% of these AGNs are blazars
      - 24% FSRQs, 38% BL Lacs, 38% unclear

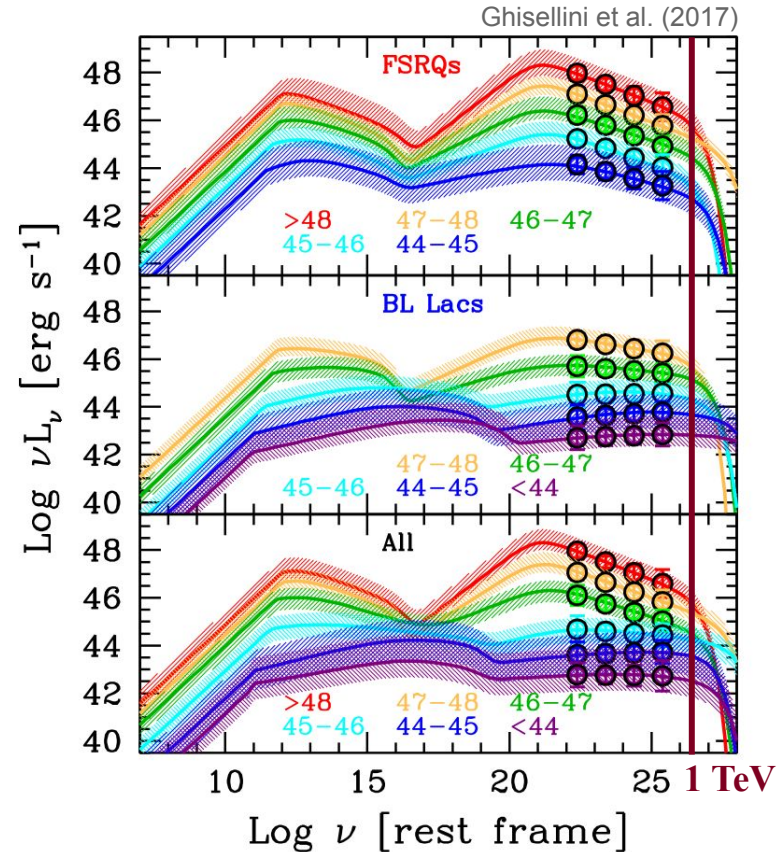
## Blazar sequence?

- Inferred anti-correlation of peak power with peak frequency
- Initially: (biased?) X-ray/radio selection Fossati et al. (1998)
- Confirmed with Fermi-only selection Ghisellini et al. (2017)  
→ links maximum energy, jet power and accretion rate  
(FSRQ / BL Lac lines = reprocessed disk emission)

## Extreme blazars

The high-energy frontier of the sequence

→ two dozen known to date Biteau et al. (2020)

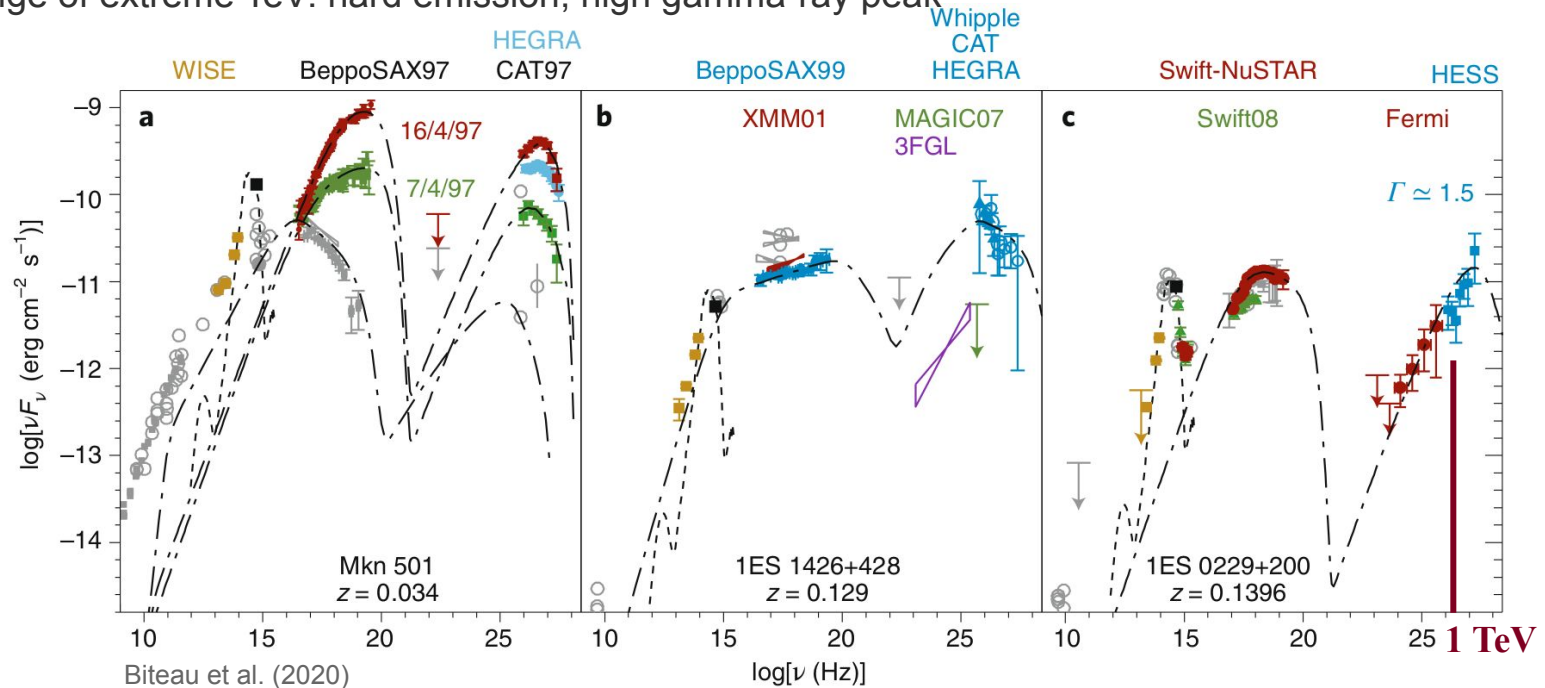


# Broad-band emission of extreme blazars

## Extreme-synchrotron & extreme-TeV blazars

Extreme blazars: synchrotron peak  $h\nu \geq \text{keV}$  ( $\sim 2 \times 10^{17}$  Hz) OR gamma-ray peak  $h\nu \geq \text{TeV}$  ( $\sim 2 \times 10^{26}$  Hz)

Challenge of extreme TeV: hard emission, high gamma-ray peak



# Broad-band emission of extreme blazars

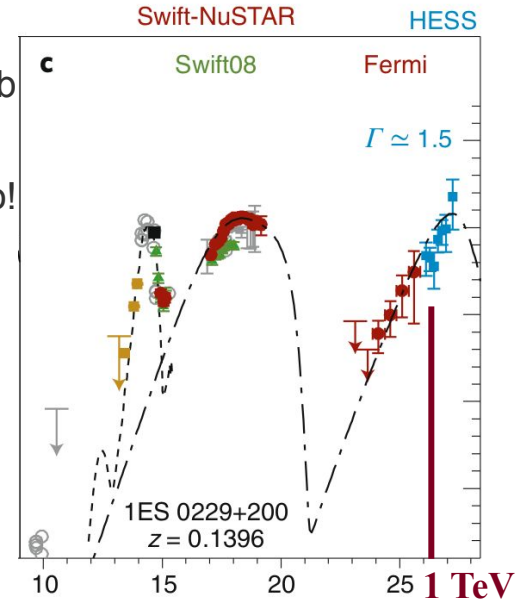
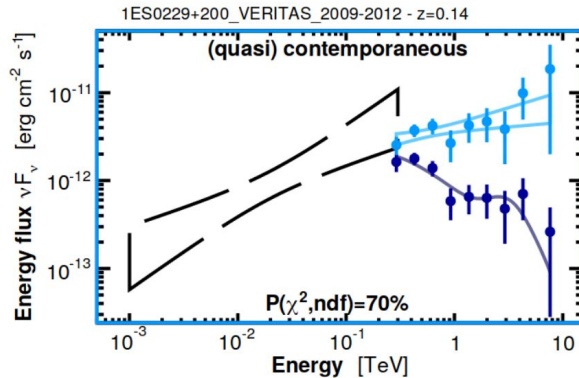
## Extreme-synchrotron & extreme-TeV blazars

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Challenge of extreme TeV: hard emission, high gamma-ray peak

### Observed $\neq$ Intrinsic

- X-rays: photoelectric effect  $\rightarrow$  sharp transitions,  $\sim$  easy to de-absorb
- gamma-rays: pair production  $\rightarrow$  smooth absorption with energy, with order of magnitude uncertainty on target photon field 10 yrs ago!





# Extreme-TeV blazars as cosmological beacons

## Absorption on the line of sight - *observed since 2012*

- $\gamma(\text{TeV}) + \gamma(\text{eV}) \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$   
→ 0.1-10 eV target photon field: extragalactic background

light

- Extreme-TeV emission  $> 10$  TeV: unique integral probe of EBL  
at  $\sim 0.1$  eV (mid- to far-infrared), complementarity with JWST!

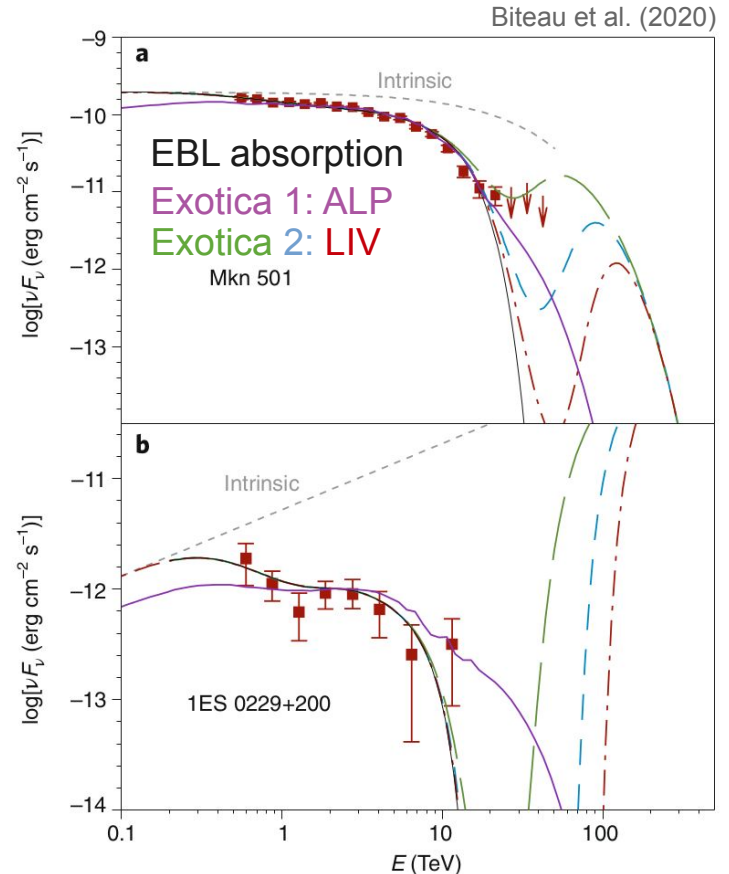
## Cooling of $e^+/e^-$ pairs - *not observed, tight constraints*

- Either plasma instabilities  
→ intergalactic medium heating
- Or inverse Compton on CMB (secondary  $\gamma$ -rays  $> 1$  GeV)  
→ probe of intergalactic  $B$ -fields up to pG level CTA (2021)

## Exotic physics - *not observed, tight constraints*

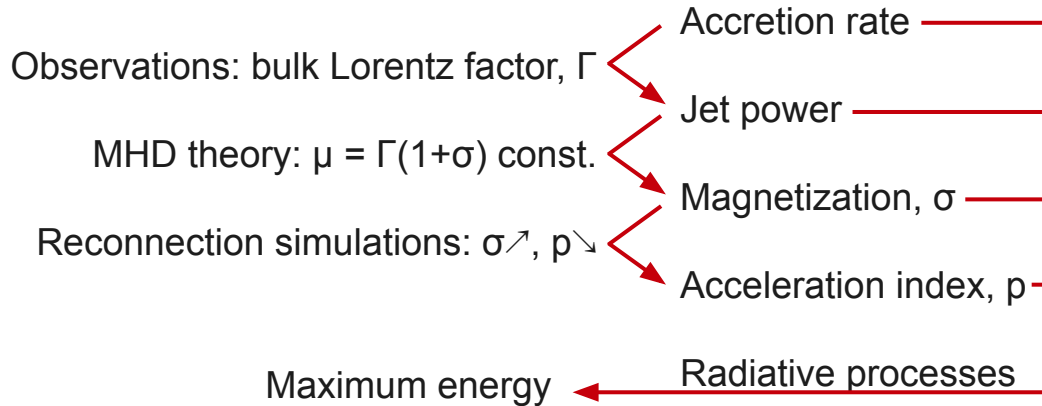
- Lorentz invariance violation (LIV) or axion-like particles

(Al Ps)



# Recent example of advanced (beautiful!) model

## Micro- & macro-physics in magnetic reconnection

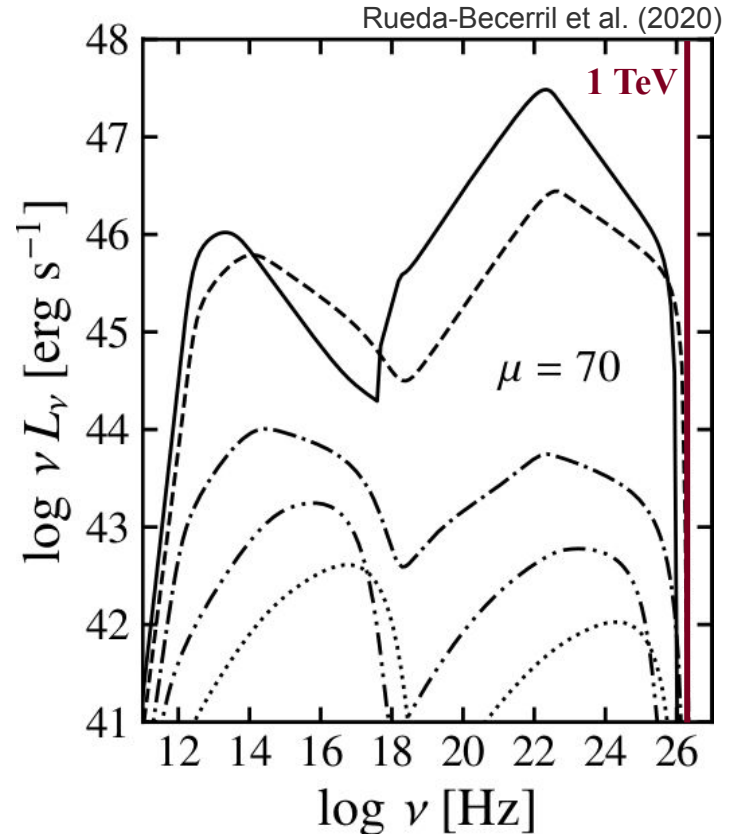


## Explanatory power

Overall reproduction of blazar sequence:

( $\Gamma \searrow$ , higher  $\sigma$ , harder  $p$ )  $\Rightarrow$  Power  $\searrow$  - Frequency  $\nearrow$

**Limitation: no emission  $> 1$  TeV!**



# Orthodox model of extreme blazars

## Acceleration processes

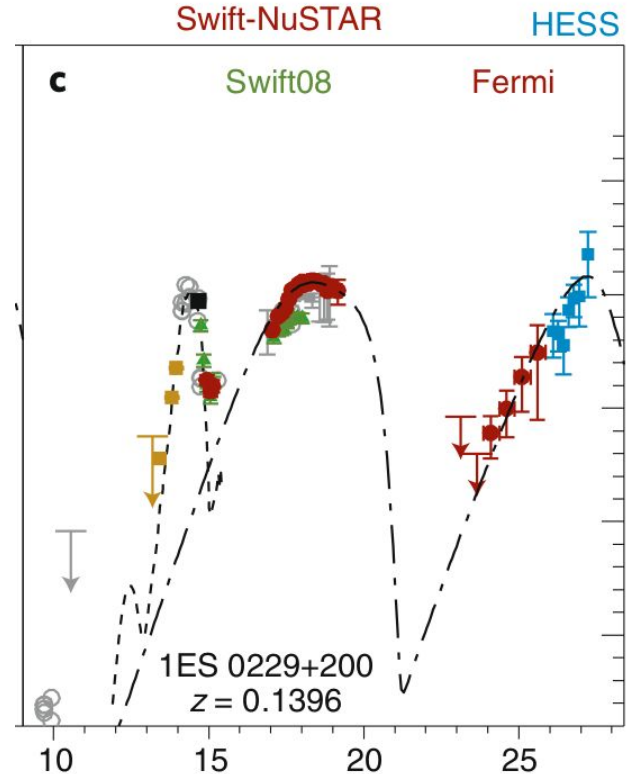
- Hard photon spectrum  $\rightarrow$  hard particle spectrum with  $p < 2$   
*most of the energy carried by rarer high-energy particles!*
  - $\rightarrow$  shocks ( $p=2$ ) with backreaction ( $p < 2$ )
  - $\rightarrow$  magnetic reconnection ( $p < 2$  allowed)

## Leptonic radiative processes

- High synchrotron peak  $\rightarrow$  weak energy losses  
**Low magnetic field** responsible for  $e^+/e^-$  synchrotron  $\sim mG$
- Gamma-ray peak = Synchrotron Self Compton  
*Two peak frequencies correlated, high bulk  $\Gamma$  ( $\sim 50$ )*
- Limitation: particle energy density / B-field energy density  $\sim 10^5$

## At odds with scenario in previous slide (high $\sigma$ , low $\Gamma$ )

$\rightarrow$  Explaining extreme-TeV blazars is indeed challenging!



# Heterodox models of extreme-TeV blazars

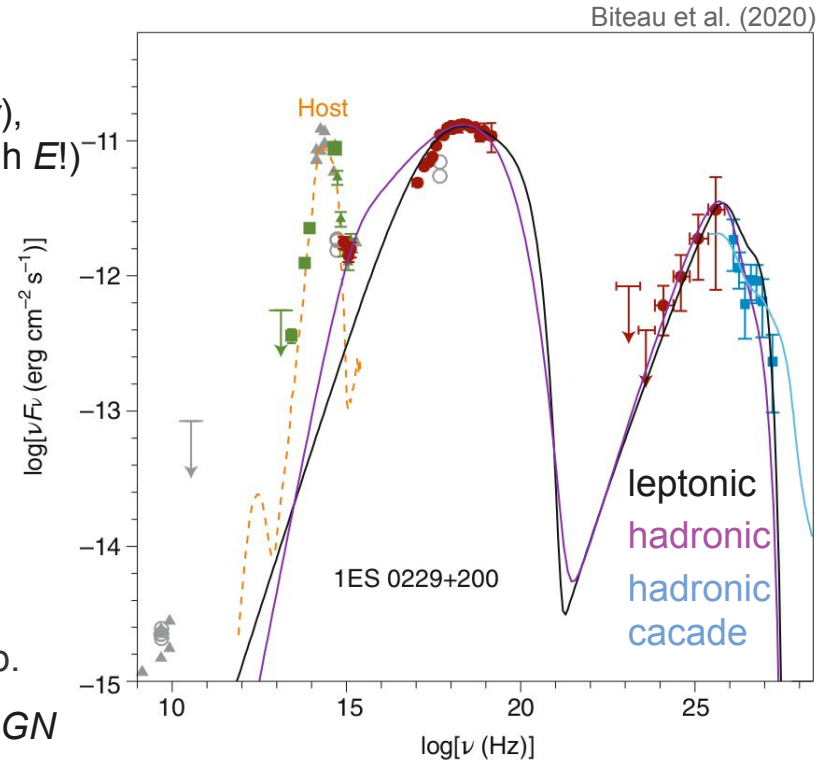
## Lepto-Hadronic radiative processes

- co-accelerated leptons (synchrotron peak) and protons
- $\gamma$ -ray peak from proton synchrotron (*ok if slow variability*), with  $p \sim 1.3-1.7$  and  $E_{max} \sim 10^{19}$  eV  $(B/100G)^{-1/2}$  (ultra-high  $E!$ )  
→ *jet close to Eddington accretion limit*
- line-of sight cascade from UHECR  
→ *GeV emission remains to be explained*

## Escaping astroparticles from extreme-TeV blazars

- Neutrino: flux beyond reach ( $p\gamma$  and  $pp$  sub-dominant)
- Ultra-high energy cosmic rays (UHECRs): highest synchrotron peak of extreme blazars  
→  $\text{low } t_{acc} / t_{Larmor} = \text{fastest accelerators among AGN pop.}$

*Extreme-TeV = best UHECR-source candidates among AGN*

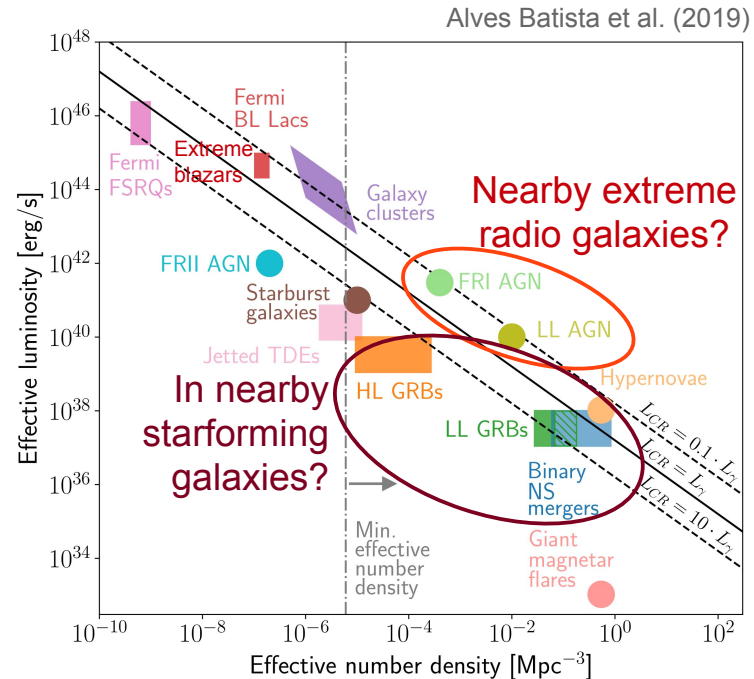
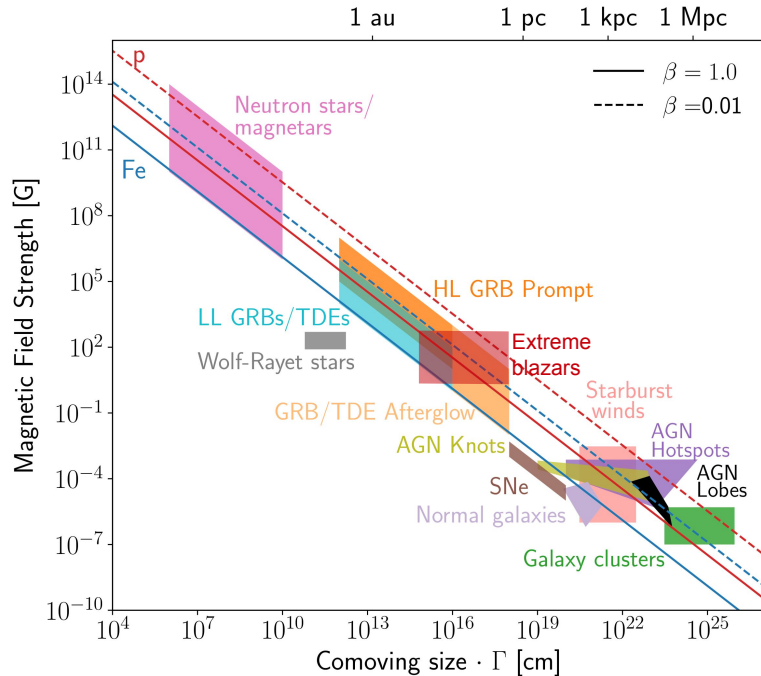


# UHECR accelerators?

## Extreme blazars and necessary conditions for being an UHECR source

Confinement (Hillas condition) ✓, Number density (anisotropies) ✗, Distance (<100 Mpc) ✗

→ nearby extreme radio galaxies? Only if they accelerate heavy nuclei (e.g. espresso model, Caprioli (2015))

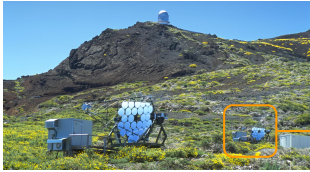


# Tell-tale sign for UHECR acceleration with CTA

## 20-30 GeV energy threshold + 10× increased sensitivity + improved energy resolution

- Nice potential to distinguish hadronic & leptonic scenarios.
- Nearby extreme radio galaxies discovery?

HEGRA ('90s)



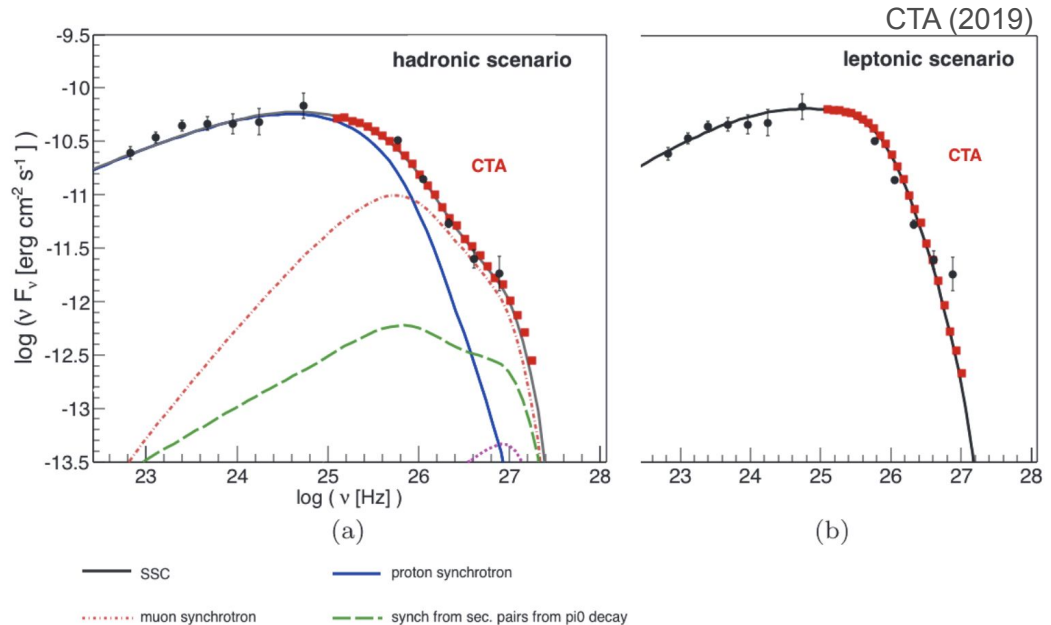
MAGIC ('00s, '10s)



CTA North



CTA ('20s, '30s, '40s)



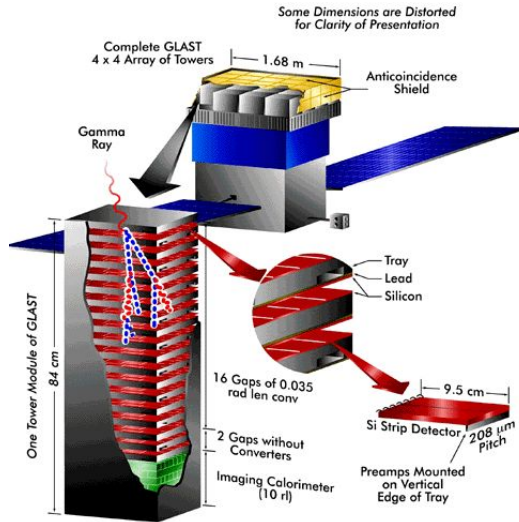
# Arrival of $\gamma$ -rays near Earth

**Satellite-based: 100 MeV - 1 TeV**

O(100%) duty cycle,  $\sim 550$  km altitude

Tracker with SSDs, CsI(Tl) with photodiodes

Lead experiment: *Fermi-LAT*

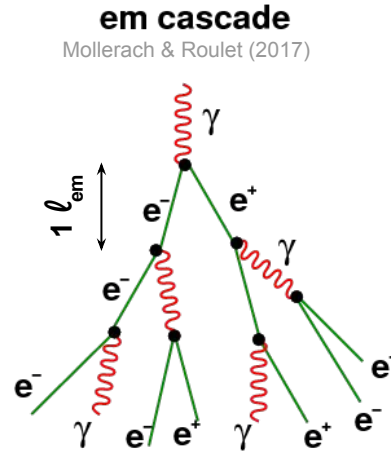


**Telescope-based: 100 GeV - 100 TeV**

O(10%) duty cycle,  $\sim 2$  km above sea level

Cameras with O(1000) PMTs and ns sampling

Lead experiments: HESS, MAGIC, VERITAS



**Performance > 10 GeV**  
 energy resolution  $\sim 10\%$   
 angular resolution  $\sim 0.1^\circ$

