

# Unraveling the mysteries of the non-thermal universe using $\gamma$ -ray observations of Active Galactic Nuclei

Wystan Benbow

MPI für Kernphysik, Heidelberg

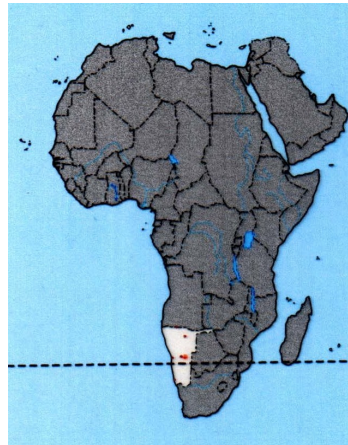




# The H.E.S.S. Phase-I Telescopes

## Location:

- Namibia (1800 m asl)



## Telescope:

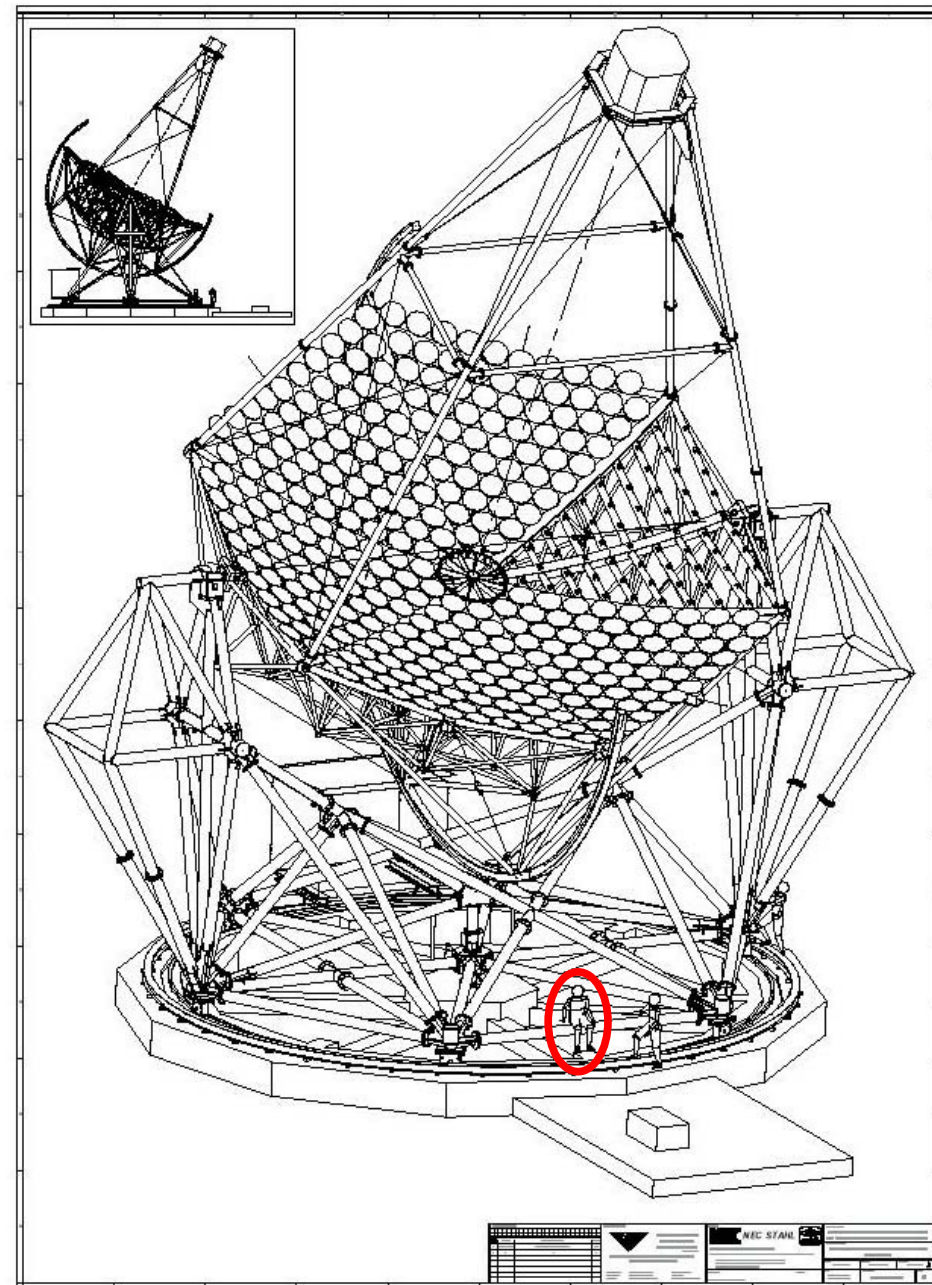
- Altitude-azimuth mount
- Davies-Cotton reflector
- Rigid steel structure
- Diameter: 12 m
- Focal length: 15 m ( $f/d \sim 1.2$ )
- **4 telescopes separated by 120 m**

## Mirror:

- Mirror area  $\sim 107 \text{ m}^2$
- 380 individual mirrors (60 cm diameter)
- **Image of a star focused to 1/3 of camera pixel**

## Central Trigger System:

- **Require a 2-telescope coincidence**
  - Removes muons
  - Lower threshold
  - Enables stereoscopic techniques





# The H.E.S.S. Cameras

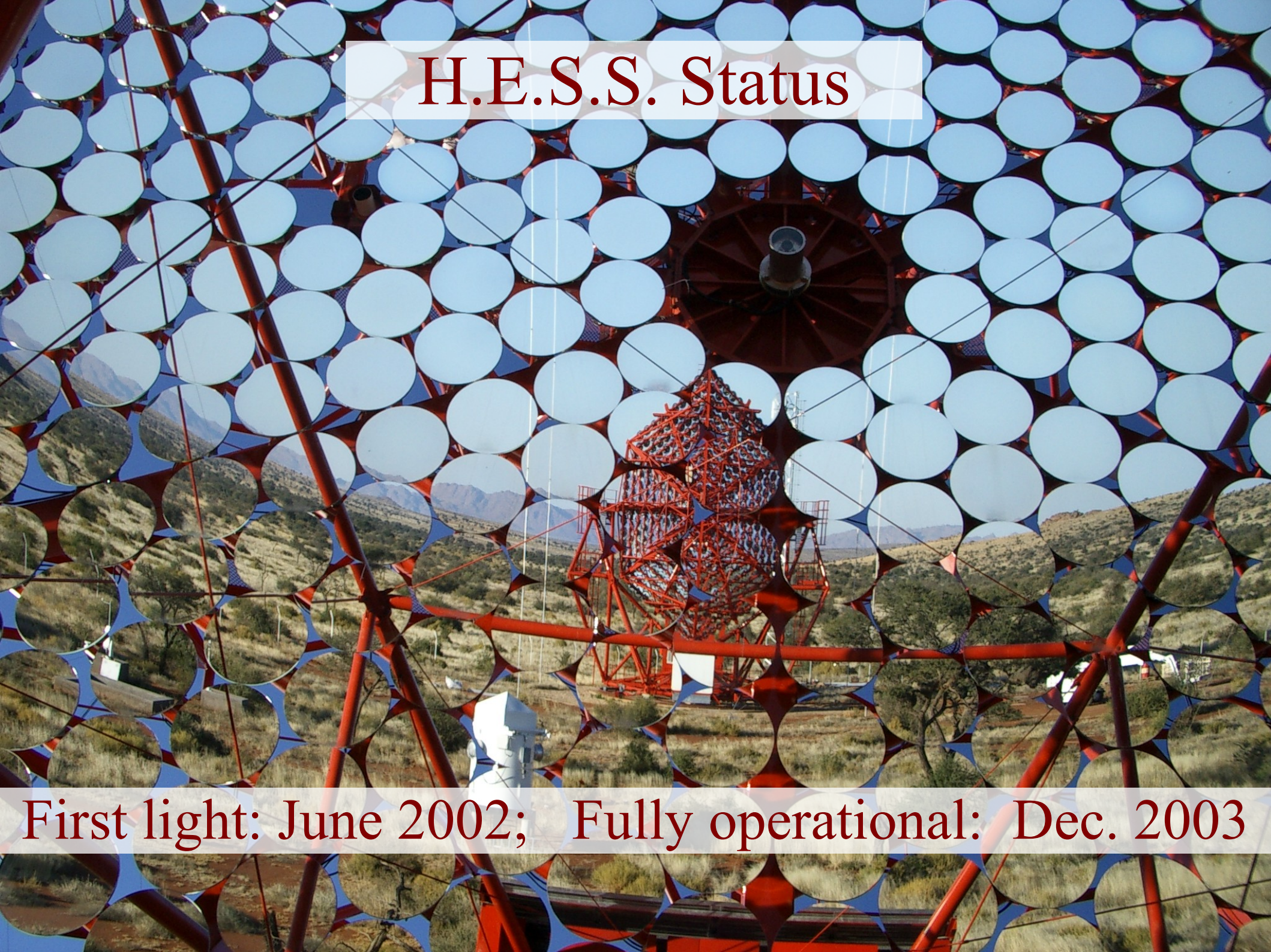
- 960 pixels of  $0.16^\circ$
- $5^\circ$  field of view (1.4 m)
- Readout integrated in camera body
- 16 ns integration, 1 GHz sampling



"Light in,  
light out"







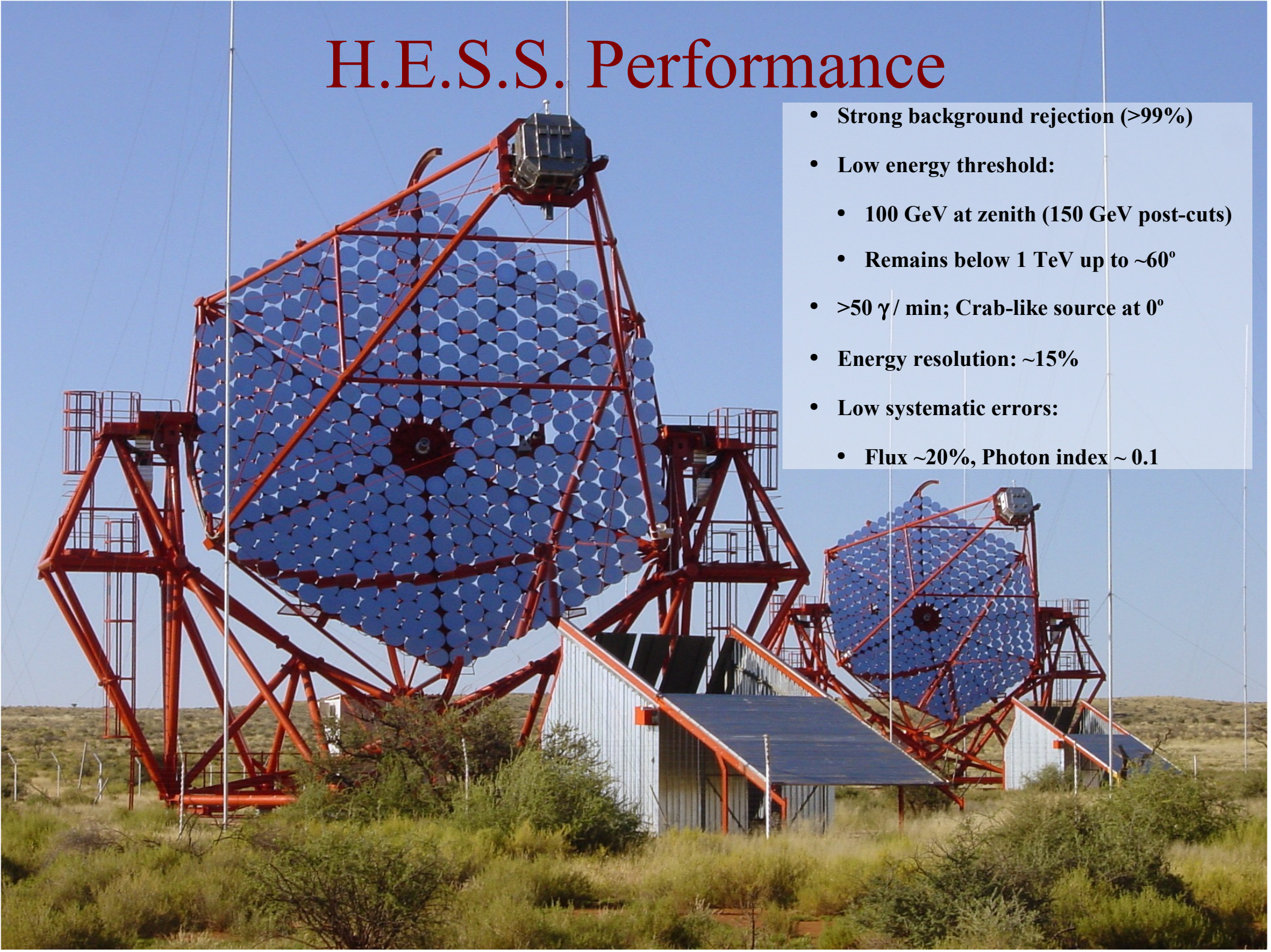
# H.E.S.S. Status

First light: June 2002; Fully operational: Dec. 2003



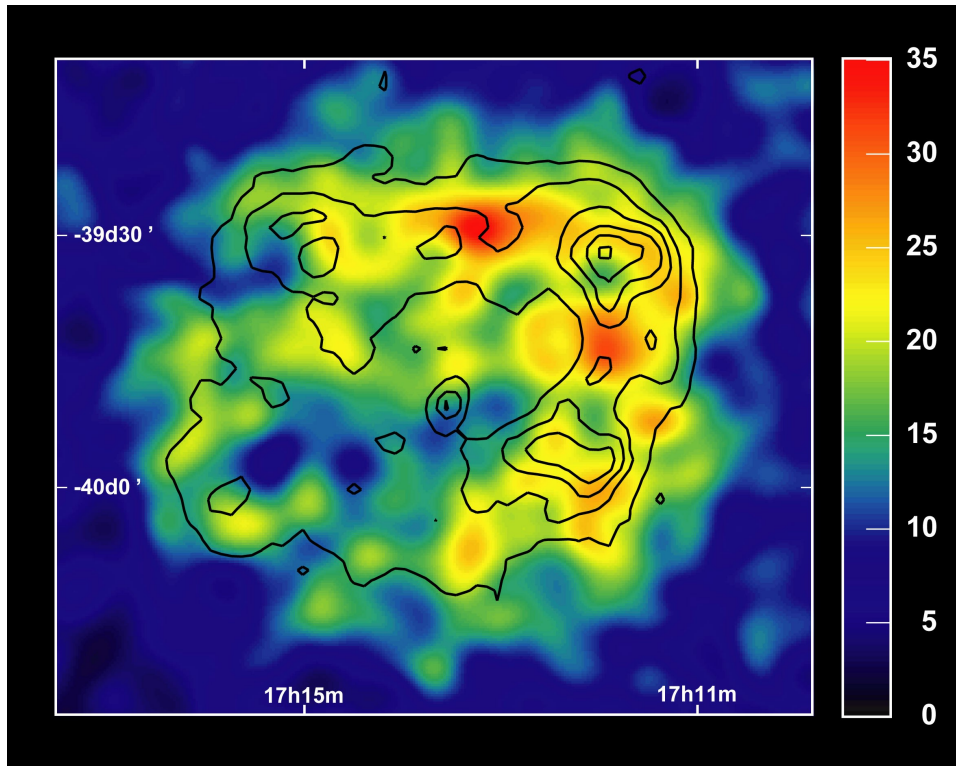
# H.E.S.S. Performance

- Strong background rejection (>99%)
- Low energy threshold:
  - 100 GeV at zenith (150 GeV post-cuts)
  - Remains below 1 TeV up to  $\sim 60^\circ$
- $>50 \gamma / \text{min}$ ; Crab-like source at  $0^\circ$
- Energy resolution:  $\sim 15\%$
- Low systematic errors:
  - Flux  $\sim 20\%$ , Photon index  $\sim 0.1$





# H.E.S.S. Performance

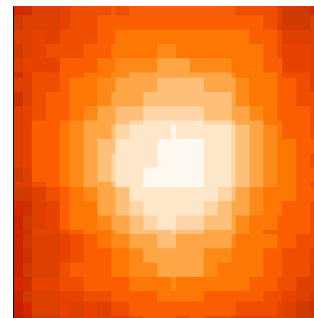


- **Small point spread function**
  - Width  $< 0.1^\circ$ ,
  - Comparable to ASCA
- **Large field of view ( $5^\circ$ )**
- **Pointing error  $< 20''$**
- **Great for surveys:**

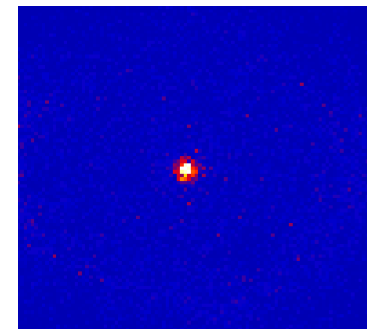
Aharonian et al., 2005, *Science*, **307**, 1938

**Resolve  $\gamma$ -ray morphology of  
extended objects (e.g. SNR)  
like RXJ 1713.7-3946**

Aharonian et al., 2004, *Nature*, **432**, 75



Crab with EGRET



Crab in TeV



# Many Analysis Chains

## All agree well!

- 2 independent simulations

- Camera calibration:

- *Astropart Phys*, 22, 109 (2004)
- 2 independent methods

- Geometrical reconstruction:

- 3 independent methods

- Background rejection

- 4 different methods

- Background estimation (>5 methods)

- Energy estimation (5 methods)

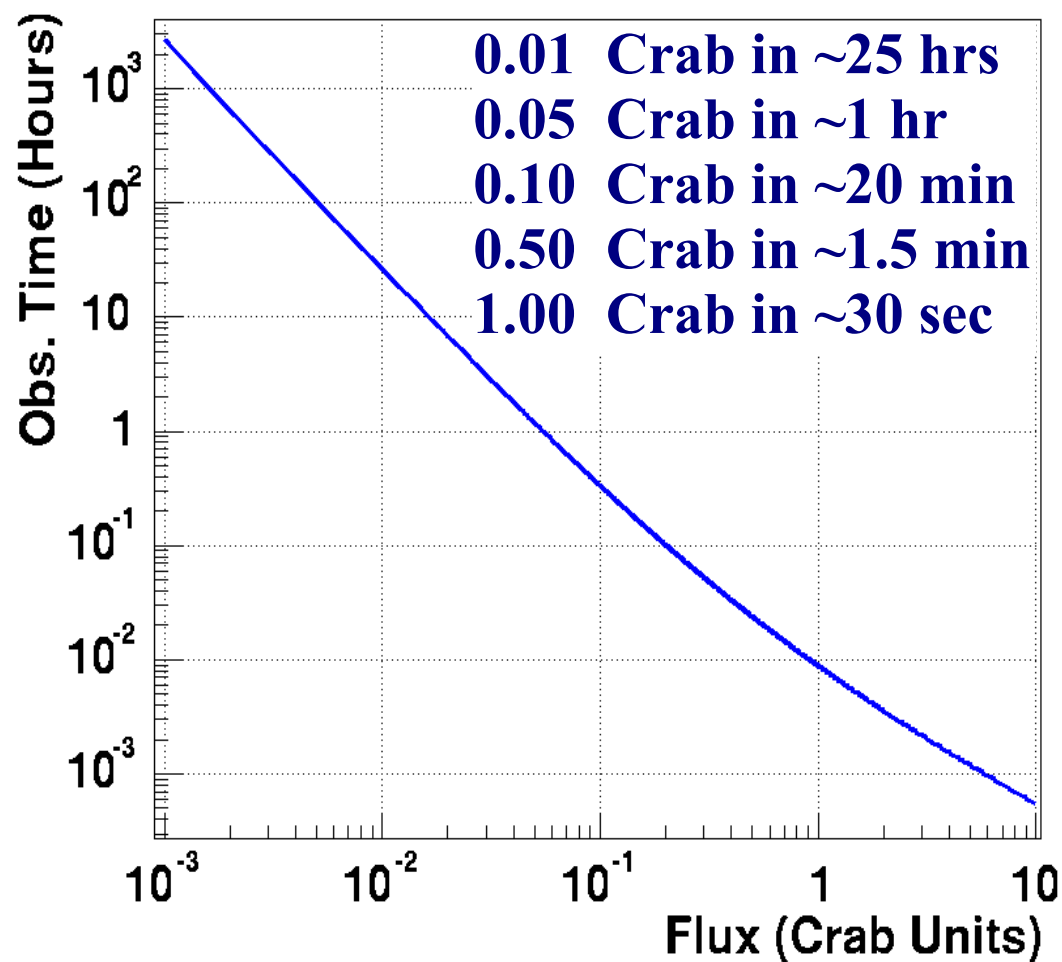
- Spectrum (2 techniques)

**Standard Analysis:**  
W. Benbow, Proc. of Towards a  
Network of Atmospheric Cherenkov  
Detectors VII (Palaiseau), 2005



# H.E.S.S. Sensitivity

**Time Required for a  $5\sigma$  Detection at  $20^\circ$**

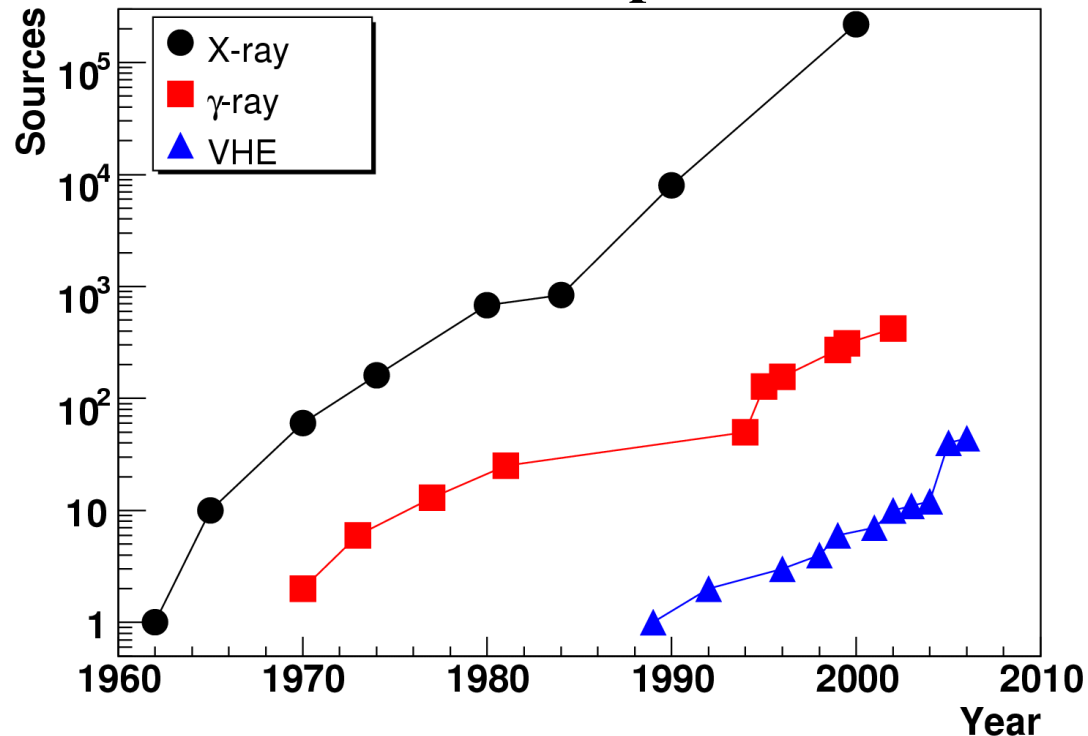


**For comparison: HEGRA needed ~100 hrs to  
detect  $5\sigma$  from a 5% Crab source**



# The Rapidly Increasing VHE Catalog (& some shameless propaganda)

“Kifune plot”



- 46 total VHE sources
  - 12 extragalactic (AGN)
- 37 are H.E.S.S. sources
  - 7 extragalactic (AGN)
- 30 are H.E.S.S. discoveries
  - 4 extragalactic (AGN)
- Many more to come....

30 scientific H.E.S.S. publications in refereed journals

3 Nature letters & 2 Science letters

[www.mpi-hd.mpg.de/hfm/HESS/](http://www.mpi-hd.mpg.de/hfm/HESS/)



# What is an AGN?

Spiral Galaxy



Spitzer Image (NASA)

Elliptical Galaxy



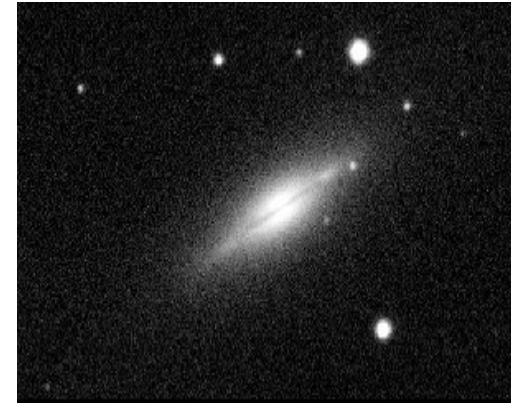
Cuillandre (CFH Telescope)

Irregular Galaxy



Hunter (Lowell Observatory) & Levay (STScI)

Lenticular Galaxy

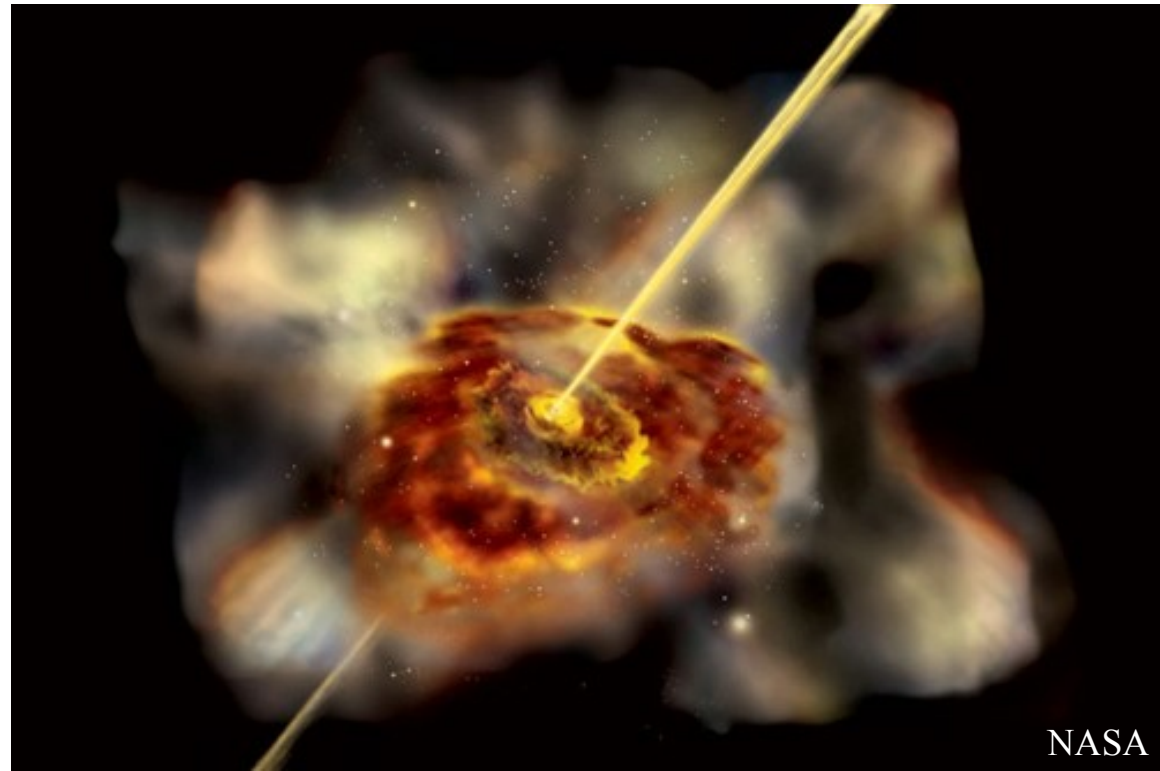
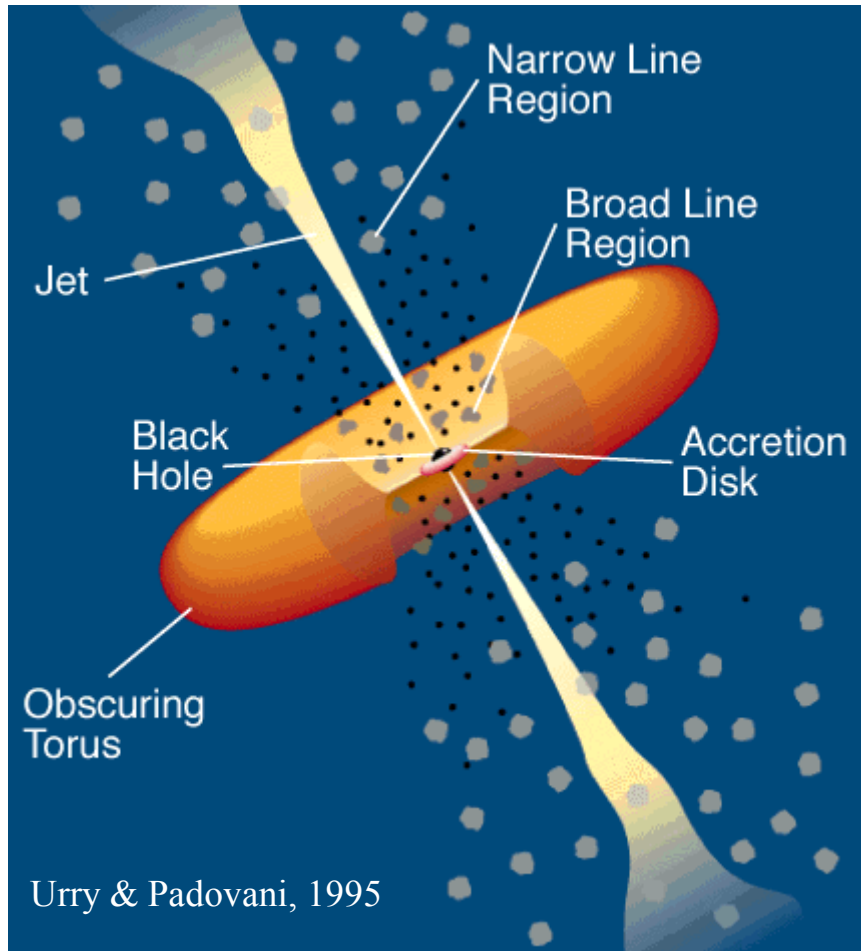


Korth (Sternwarte Aufderhöhe)

- Galaxy: A collection of gas, dust &  $>10^6$  stars held together by gravity
  - Usually a super massive black hole at the center ( $\sim 10^6$  to  $10^9$  x solar mass)
- At least 5% of all galaxies are active galaxies
  - Active galaxies: small "bright" core of emission in otherwise typical galaxy
  - AGN = Active Galactic Nucleus (i.e. the core)
- AGN are highly variable & very bright compared to rest of galaxy
  - Bulk of emission is non-thermal (not just sum of lots of stars)
  - Emission at wavelengths other than optical (e.g. radio, x-ray &  $\gamma$ -ray)
- Basic model: Matter accreting onto supermassive black hole
- Why are some galaxies active & others not? Central matter already “eaten”



# Unified Model of AGN



About 10% of AGN (Radio-loud population) have jets = highly relativistic outflow of energetic particles approximately perpendicular to the accretion disk

VHE emission is believed to be generated by these collimated radio-emitting jets

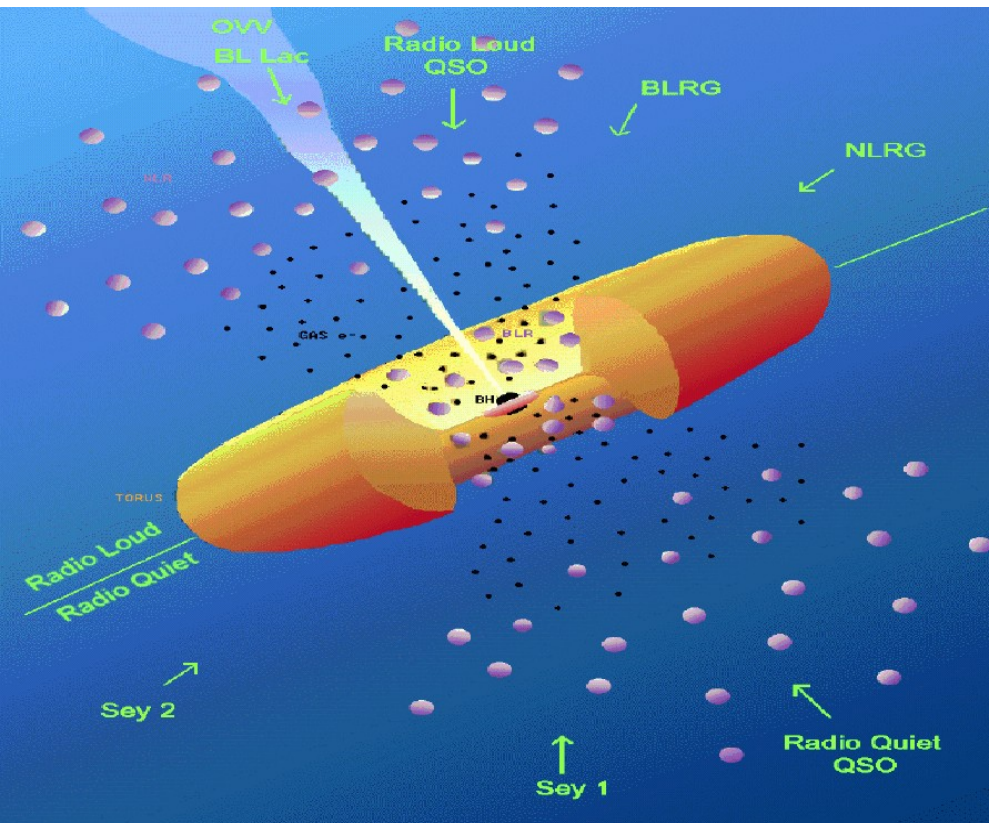


# Taxonomy of AGN

Many, many subclasses of AGN

Due to viewing "same" objects at various angles with respect to the torus plane

~All VHE AGN are BL Lacs



## Radio Loud (Quasars)

### FR I

Core dominated Radio emission, weak optical emission, Low luminosity

### BL Lac

Share properties of BL Lacertae, Highly polarized, Beamed

XBL  
TeV  
Sources

RBL  
EGRET  
Sources

Radio (5GHz) to optical (B-band) luminosity ratio greater than 10. Higher luminosity. Roughly 15% of AGN.

### FR II

Lobe dominated Radio emission, strong optical emission, High luminosity

### SSRQ

Spectral index greater than 0.5 at about 3GHz.

### FSRQ

Spectral index less than 0.5 at 3GHz. Beamed. Highly Polarized

## Radio Quiet

Radio (5GHz) to optical (B-band) luminosity ratio less than 10, Lower Luminosity

### Seyfert I

Both narrow and broad lines in optical and UV, Host Galaxy Visible, Strong non-stellar continuum

### Seyfert II

Narrow lines only in optical and UV, Host Galaxy Visible, Weak non-stellar continuum

### QSO

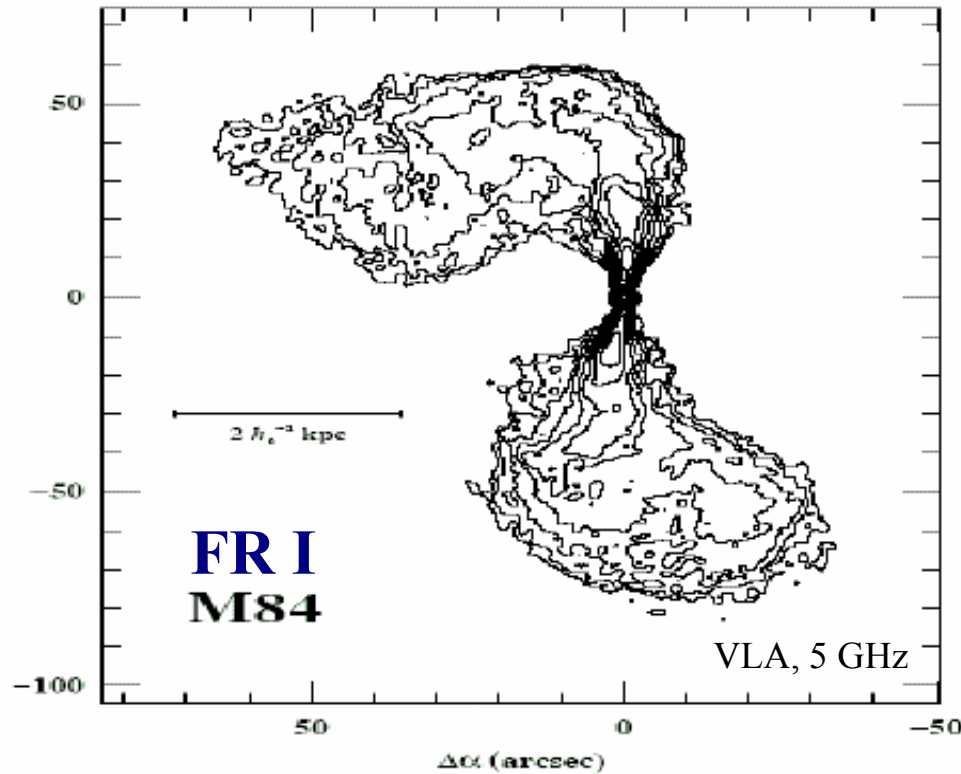
Host Galaxy Not Visible



# Fanaroff-Riley Galaxies

**FR I:** extended jets, no distinct termination point, core dominated

- Small angle => BL Lacs



Blazars: BL Lacs + FSRQ

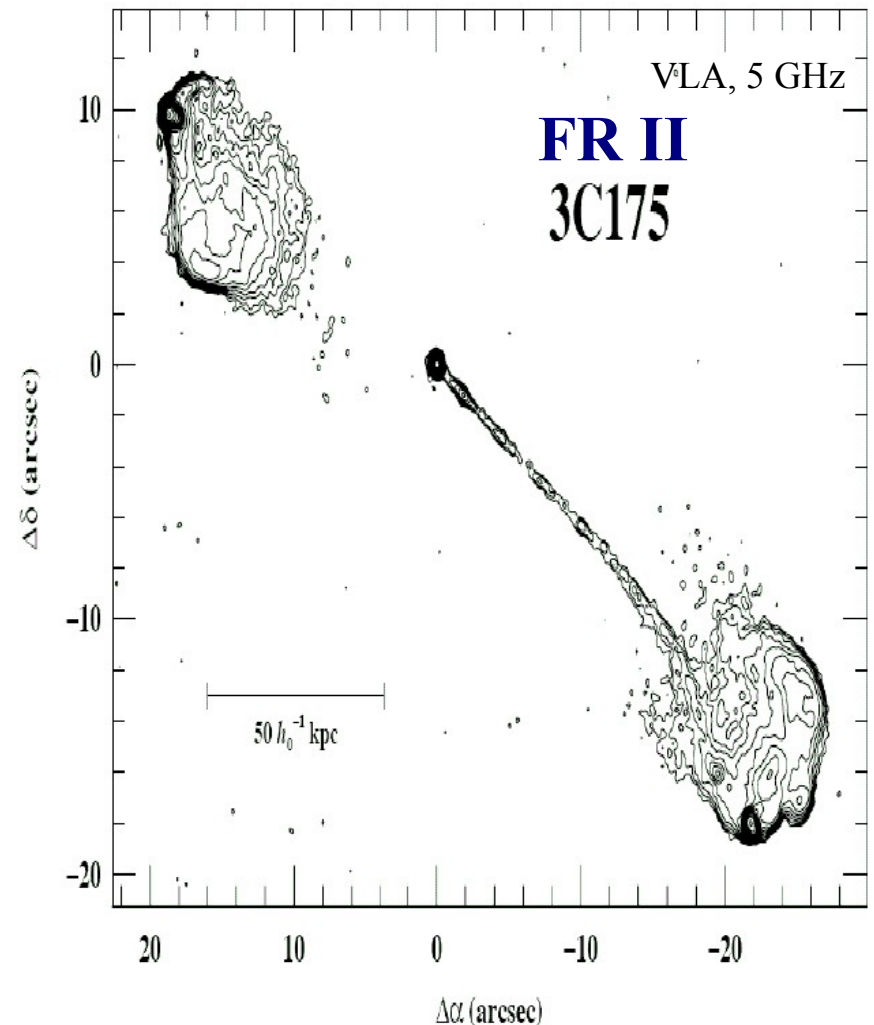
Low-energy (EGRET)  $\gamma$ -ray AGN :

- 66 definite + 27 possible blazars
- Cen A (the FR I prototype)

VHE  $\gamma$ -ray AGN: 11 blazars + M 87 (FR I)

**FR II:** Narrow, collimated jets with terminal "hot spots", lobe dominated, more luminous

- Small angle => FSRQ





# Blazars: The VHE Bread & Butter

Jet oriented close to line of sight:

- Emission is Doppler boosted (“relativistically beamed”)
- Large variations in luminosity
- “Decreased size” of emission region
- Reduces variability time-scale
- Allows VHE photons to escape high radiation fields

Low-emission quiescent states with bright flares (orders of mag.)

Emission is polarized

- Reflected light from torus

BL Lacs = no/weak optical lines

FSRQ = broad optical lines





# Blazar Properties

SED: Power vs energy

2 populations: “Not really”

Blazar SEDs have 2 bumps:

- Low-energy from synchrotron radiation of relativistic electrons in B-fields of Jets
- High-energy bump: controversial

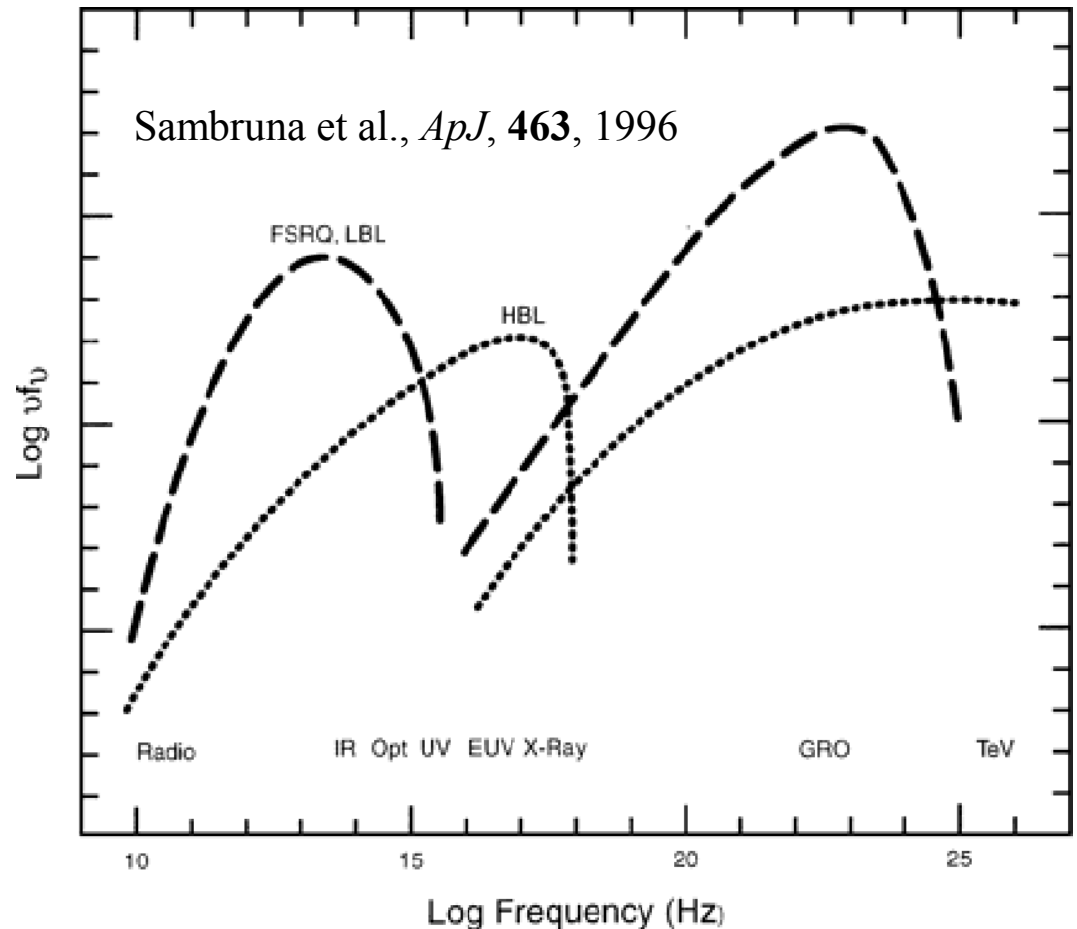
Leptonic Models:

- Electrons upscatter photons (via inverse-Compton scattering) to high energies
- Seed photons: SSC vs EC

Hadronic Models:

- Interaction of relativistic protons with matter, ambient photons, B-field, or photons & B-field

Average Spectral Shape of Blazars

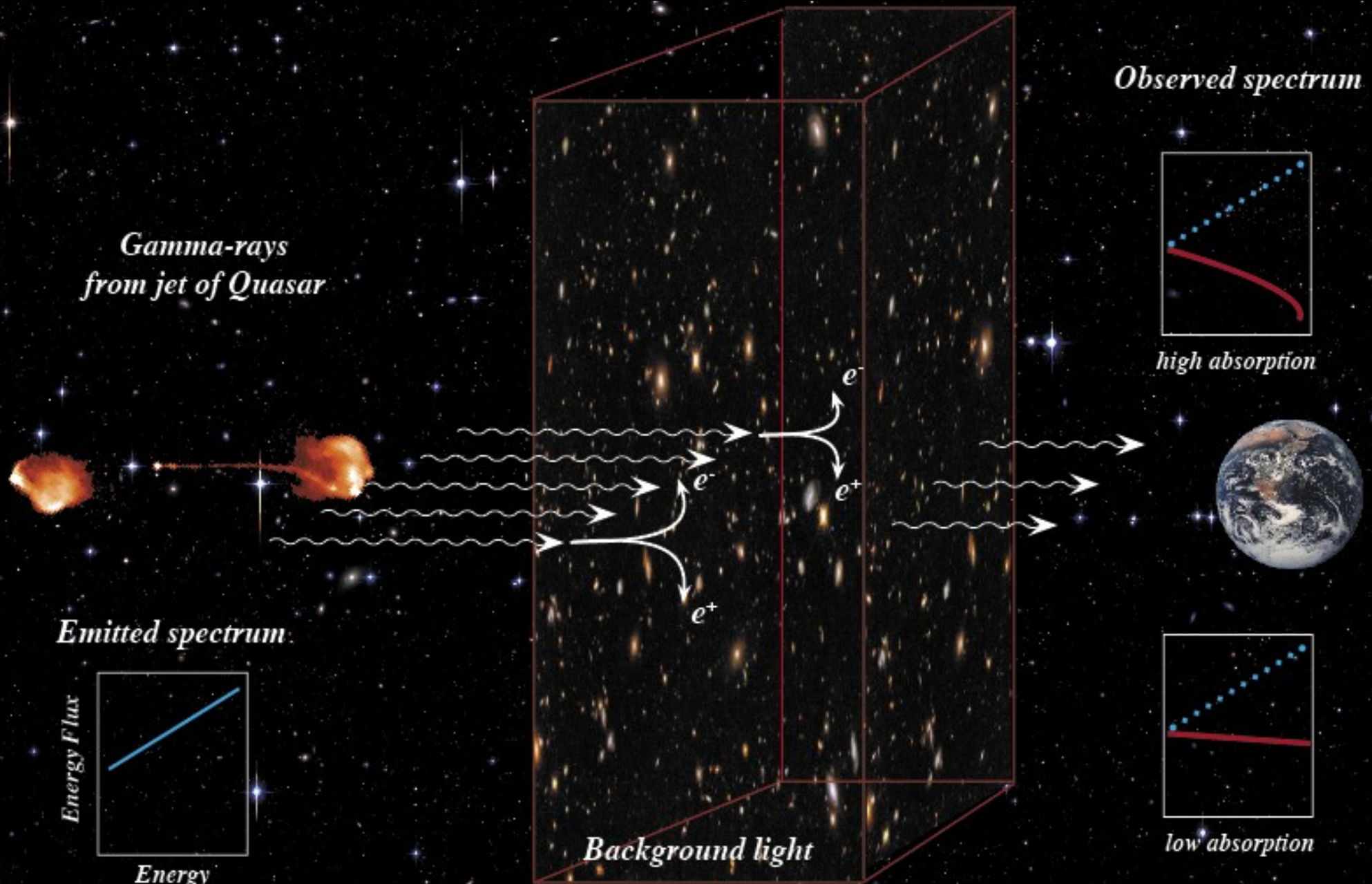


“All” EGRET AGN are LBL & FSRQ

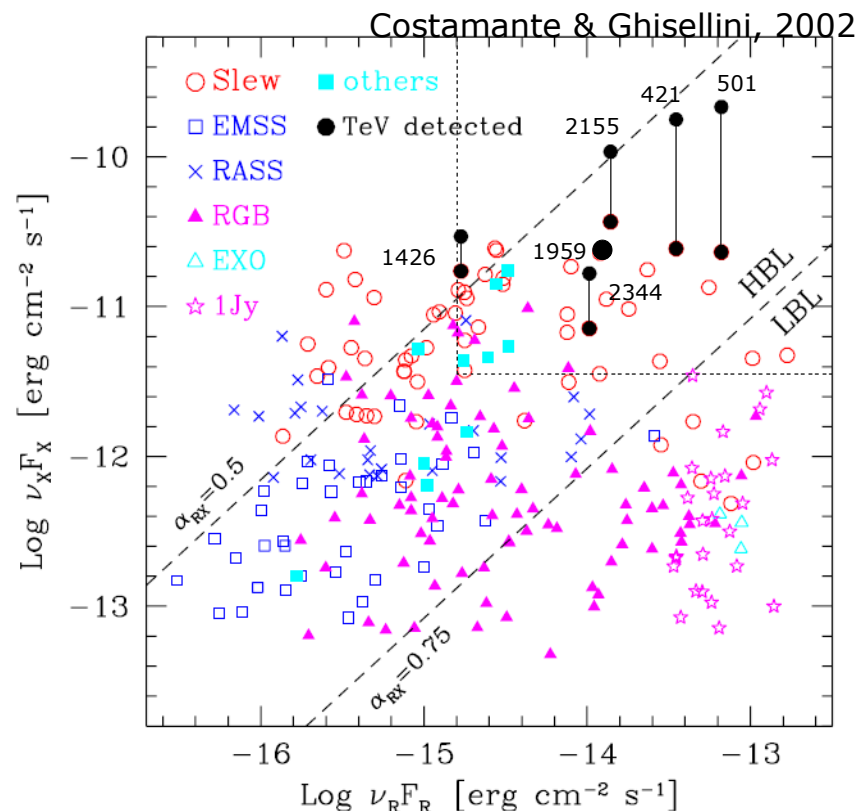
“All” VHE AGN are HBL



# One "Small" Complication!



# 7 VHE AGN in 2002



| Object         | Redshift | Type   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Detection | Confirmation |
|----------------|----------|--------|---------------------------|--------------|
| M 87           | 0.004    | FR I   | HEGRA                     | None         |
| <b>Mkn 421</b> | 0.030    | BL Lac | Whipple                   | Many         |
| <b>Mkn 501</b> | 0.034    | BL Lac | Whipple                   | Many         |
| 1ES 2344+514   | 0.044    | BL Lac | Whipple                   | HEGRA        |
| 1ES 1959+650   | 0.047    | BL Lac | 7-Tel. Array              | Many         |
| PKS 2155-304   | 0.116    | BL Lac | Mark VI                   | None         |
| H 1426+428     | 0.129    | BL Lac | Whipple                   | Many         |

2 are “dubious”, Only 2 very well studied

Only upper limits from other AGN in the X-ray/Radio flux box



# The H.E.S.S. AGN Program

- **Usually ~1000 total hrs of observations per year**
  - Can only observe on moonless, cloudless nights
  - ~1700 total hrs are possible
- **~300 hrs per year for AGN program**
  - ~300 hrs in 2003
  - ~400 hrs in 2004
  - ~300 hrs in 2005
  - ~100 hrs so far in 2006 (target is ~300 hrs)
- **Focus: Monitor known VHE AGN, observe candidate objects, MWL studies**
  - Initially observe ~10 hrs on a target (~1.5% Crab flux sensitivity)
  - Then increase to ~50 hrs if something interesting is seen!



# Goal #1: Identify New VHE AGN



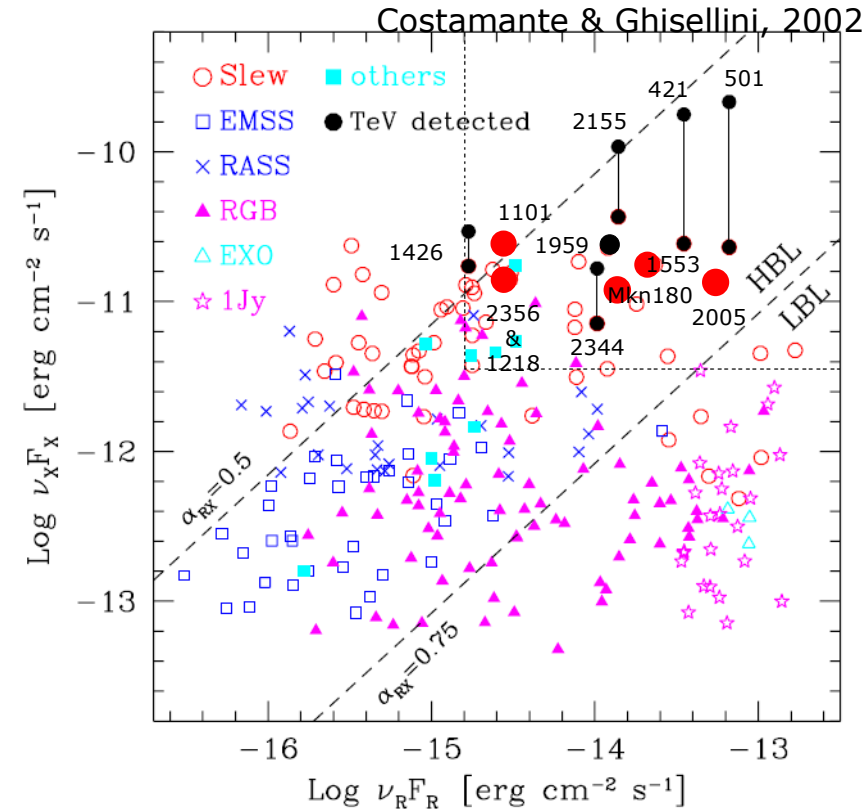
Are HBL the only VHE bright AGN?  
How far can we see in VHE gamma-rays?



# 13 Known VHE AGN in 2006

| Object              | Redshift | Type | 1 <sup>st</sup> Detection | H.E.S.S. Reference      |
|---------------------|----------|------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>M 87</b>         | 0.004    | FR I | HEGRA                     | astro-ph/0504395        |
| <b>Mkn 421</b>      | 0.030    | HBL  | Whipple*                  | A&A, 437, 95, 2005      |
| Mkn 501             | 0.034    | HBL  | Whipple*                  | ---                     |
| 1ES 2344+514        | 0.044    | HBL  | Whipple*                  | ---                     |
| Mkn 180             | 0.046    | HBL  | MAGIC                     | ---                     |
| 1ES 1959+650        | 0.047    | HBL  | 7-Tel. Array*             | ---                     |
| <b>PKS 2005-489</b> | 0.071    | HBL  | H.E.S.S.                  | A&A, 436, L17, 2005     |
| <b>PKS 2155-304</b> | 0.116    | HBL  | Mark VI                   | A&A, 430, 865, 2005     |
| H 1426+428          | 0.129    | HBL  | Whipple*                  | ---                     |
| <b>H 2356-309</b>   | 0.165    | HBL  | H.E.S.S.                  | Nature, 440, 1018, 2006 |
| 1ES 1218+304        | 0.182    | HBL  | MAGIC                     | ---                     |
| <b>1ES 1101-232</b> | 0.186    | HBL  | H.E.S.S.                  | Nature, 440, 1018, 2006 |
| <b>PG 1553+113</b>  | >0.25    | HBL  | H.E.S.S.                  | A&A, 448, L19, 2006     |

\* = detected by many (>2) observatories



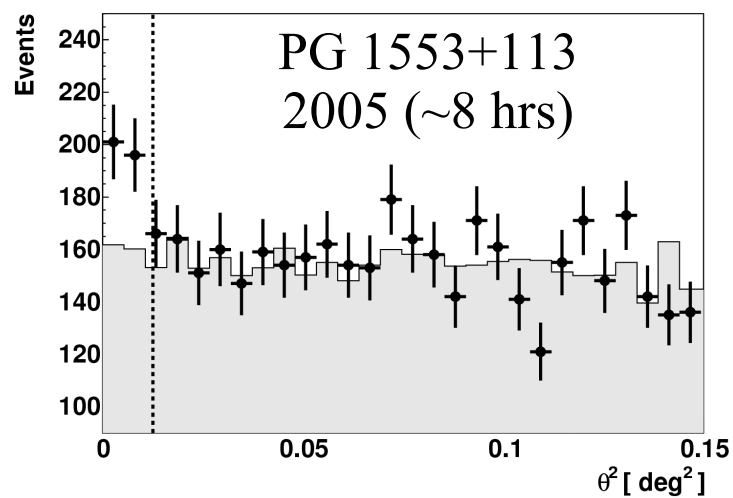
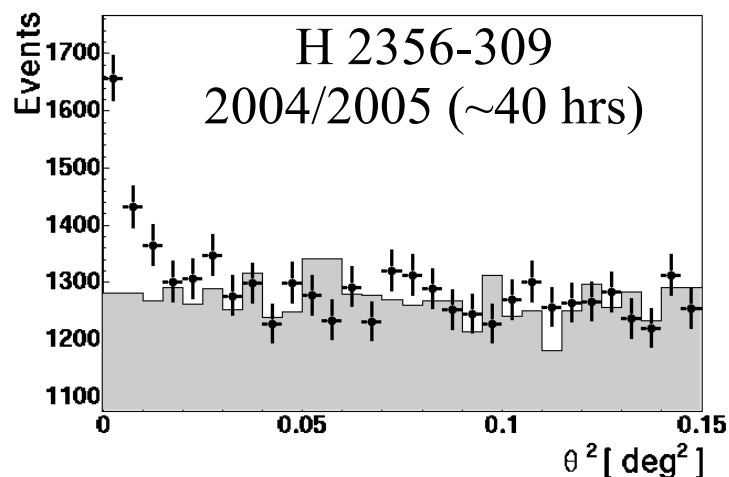
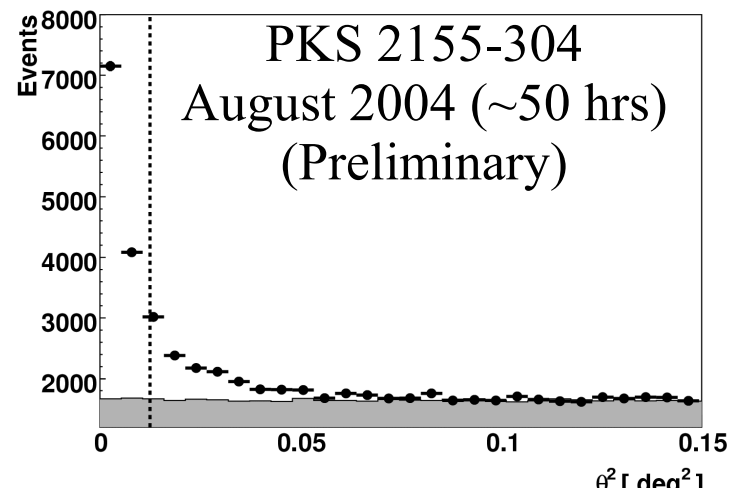
**H.E.S.S. has detected 7 AGN at VHE energies!**

**4 are “discoveries”, 2 are 1<sup>st</sup> confirmations of “weak” detections**



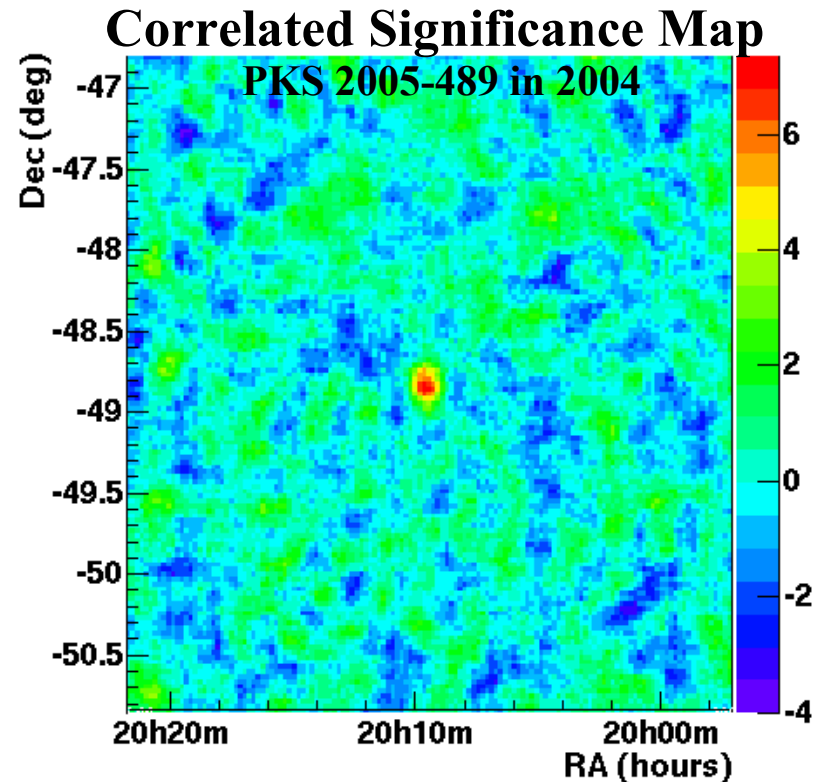
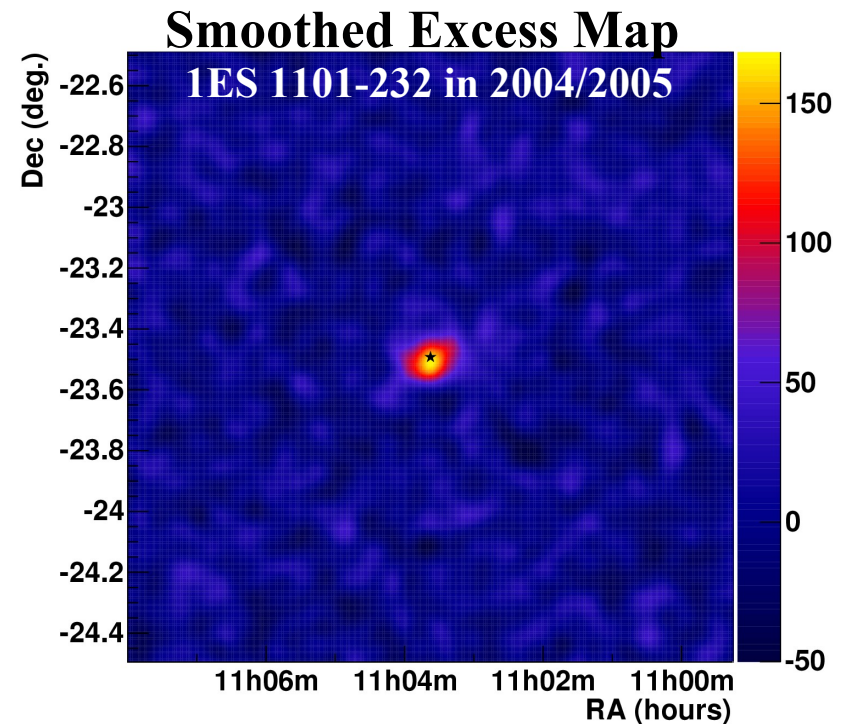
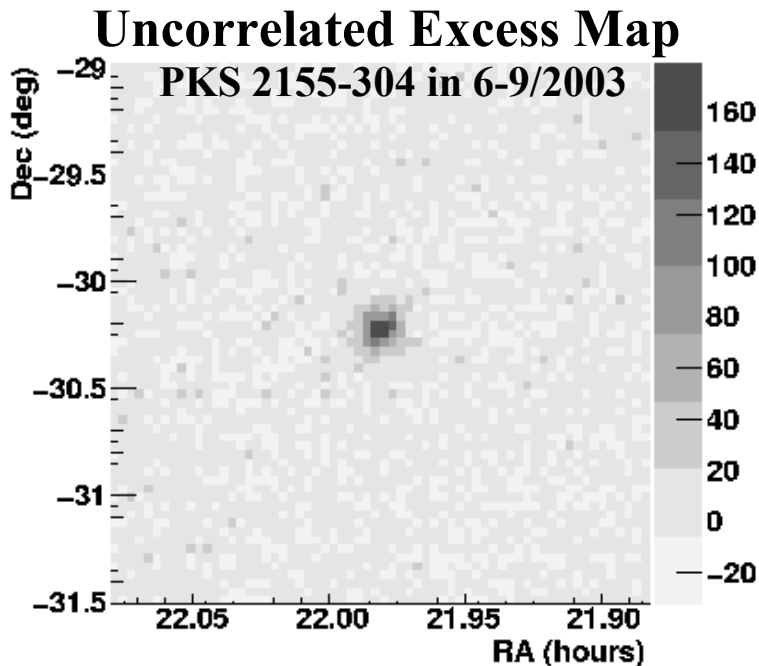
# H.E.S.S. BL Lacs

- 2 objects with  $>100\sigma$ 
  - PKS 2155-304 & Mkn 421
- 3 objects with  $>10\sigma$ 
  - 1ES 1101-232, H 2356-309, PKS 2005-489
- 1 object with “Evidence for”
  - $4.0\sigma$  on PG 1553+113
  - $>7\sigma$  including 2006 obs.
- All seen in multiple epochs
  - PKS 2155-304: 2002-2005
  - PG 1553 in 2005 & 2006
  - Others: 2004 & 2005
- All are HBL!



# BL Lac Signals in 2D

- Fit a 2D Gaussian to a sky map of the uncorrelated excess for each H.E.S.S. AGN
- Location of all AGN excesses are **coincident with nucleus**
- Width of Gaussian is always **point-like** for AGN excesses
- Galactic sources typically extended





# M 87: non-blazar

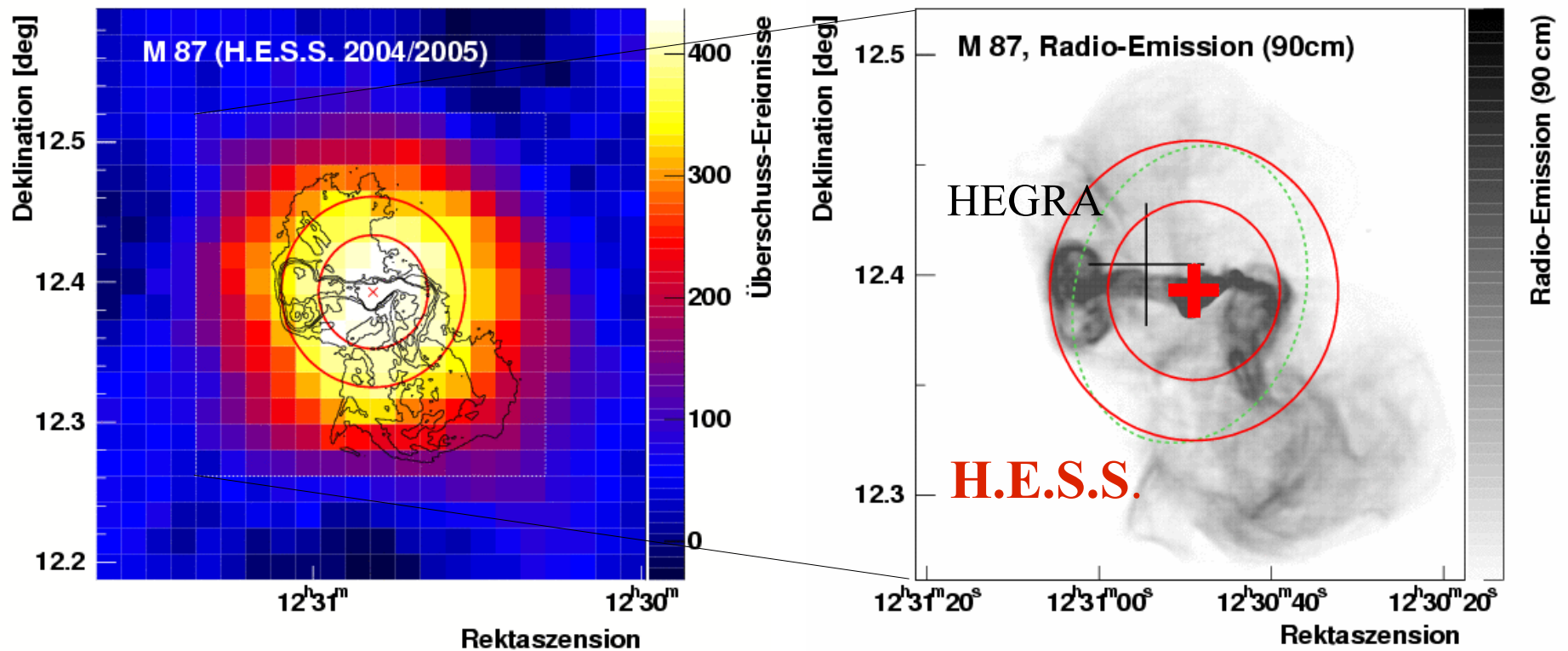
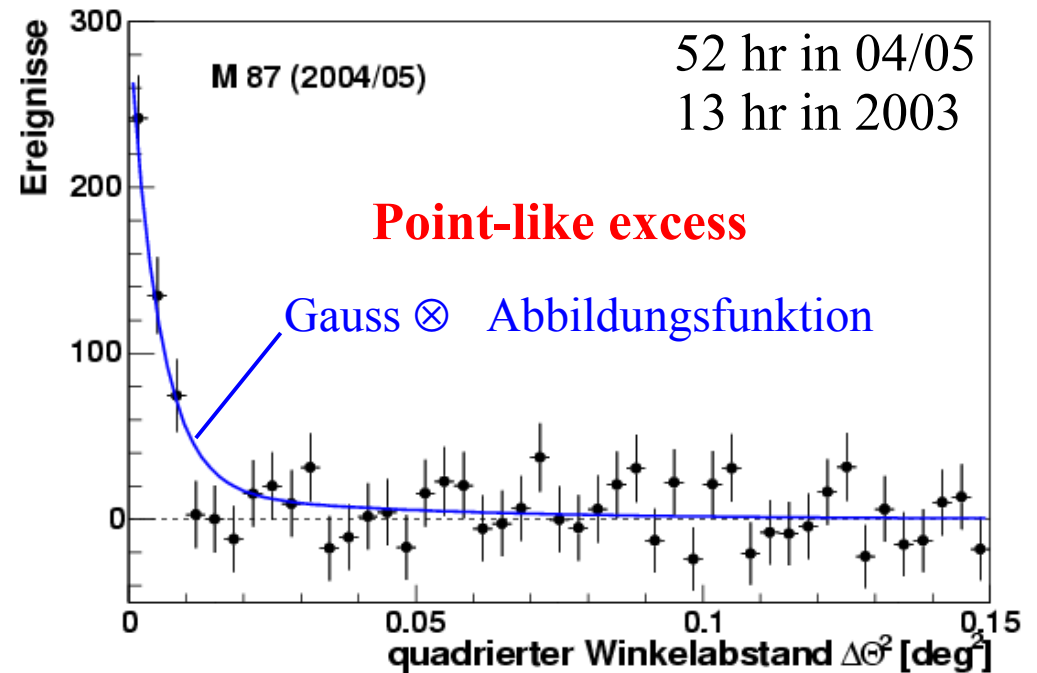
## Fanaroff-Riley Type-I Galaxy:

- A mis-aligned BL Lac?
- Jet angle:  $20^\circ$  to  $40^\circ$
- Distance:  $\sim 16$  Mpc

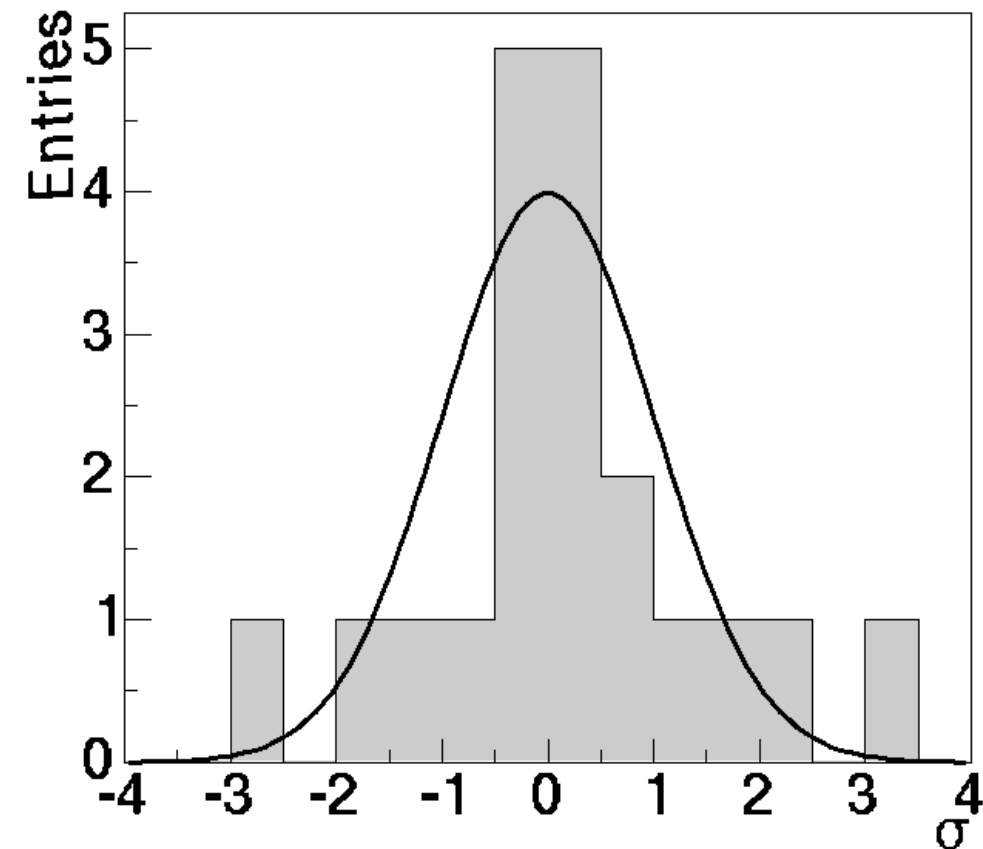
**HEGRA:**  $4.7 \sigma$  in 77 hrs (1998-99)

**Whipple:** Upper limits in 2000-03

**H.E.S.S.:**  $\sim 11 \sigma$  (471  $\gamma$ -rays)



# AGN Upper Limits



## 20 other AGN observed

- 13 BL Lacs (mostly HBL)
  - 7 from Costamante & Ghisellini 2002
- 4 Radio-loud objects
  - FR I: Pictor A, Cen A (prototype)
  - FR II: 3C 120
  - FSRQ: 3C 273
- 3 Seyferts
  - Type I: NGC 3783 (brightest), NGC 7469
  - Type II: NGC 1068 (prototype)

## No significant signal

- Mkn 501 ( $3.1 \sigma$ ,  $\sim 15\%$  Crab flux)

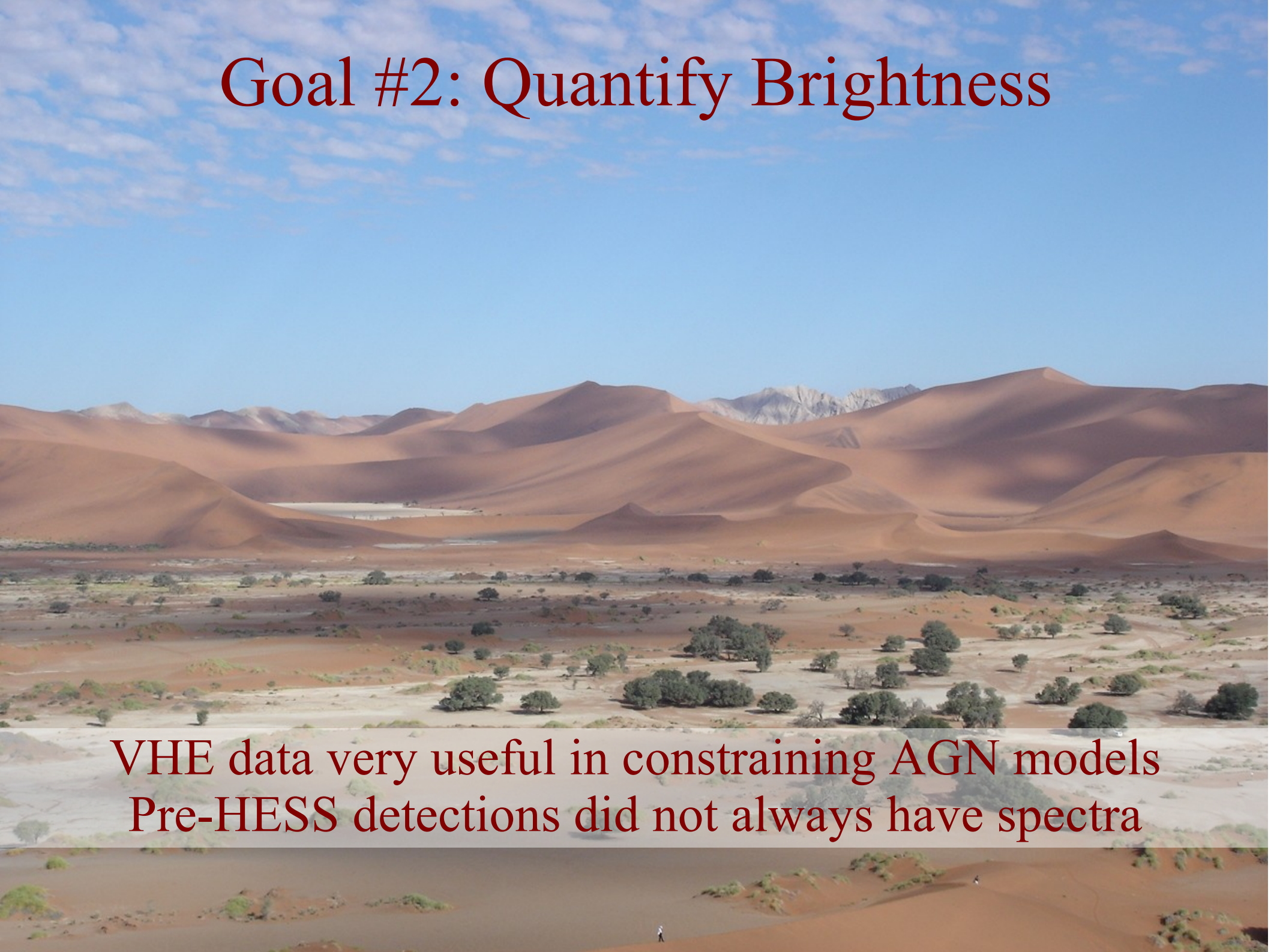
**Exposure:** 1 to 8 hrs each (avg 3.2 h)

**99.9% Upper limits:** 0.4 to 5.1% Crab

A&A, 441, 465 (2005)



# Goal #2: Quantify Brightness



VHE data very useful in constraining AGN models  
Pre-HESS detections did not always have spectra



# H.E.S.S. BL Lac Fluxes are low!

## Mkn 421 is exceptional case: ~3 Crab above 2 TeV

- H.E.S.S. Observations triggered by communication from Whipple

## Average Observed Flux for H.E.S.S. BL Lacs:

- PKS 2155-304: ~15% Crab above 200 GeV
- PKS 2005-489: ~2.5% Crab above 200 GeV
- 1ES 1101-232: ~2% Crab above 200 GeV
- H 2356-309: ~2% Crab above 200 GeV
- PG 1553+113: ~2% Crab above 200 GeV
  - 1 Crab above 200 GeV =  $2.3 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

## H.E.S.S. Observation time required for a $5\sigma$ detection:

15 minutes for PKS 2155-304

~10 hrs for PKS 2005, 1ES 1101, H 2356 & PG 1553

## Essentially impossible for earlier instruments to detect!

A “Southern” Whipple (~300 GeV threshold):

10 hrs for PKS 2155 & ~500 hrs for other sources

A “Southern” HEGRA (~1 TeV threshold):

100 hrs for PKS 2155, ~2500 hrs from 1ES 1101 & H 2356, & >20000 hrs for PKS 2005 & PG 1553



# BL Lac Energy Spectra

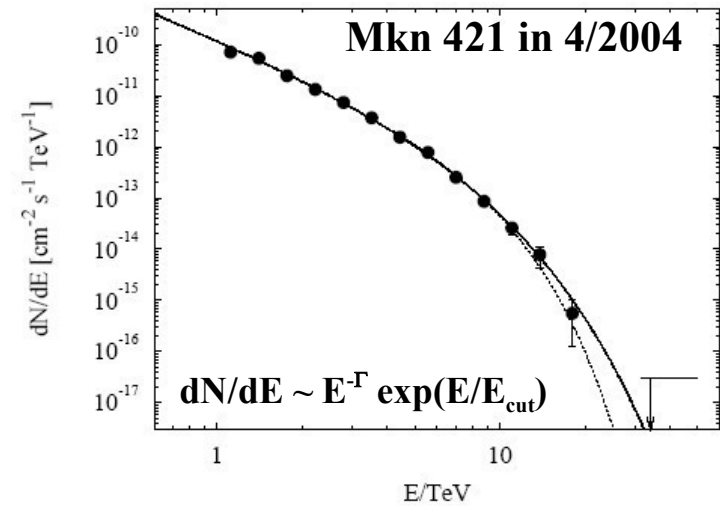
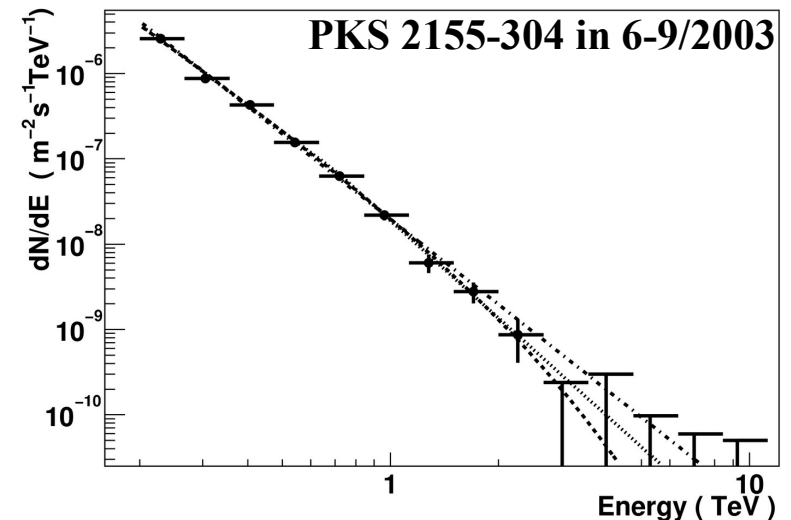
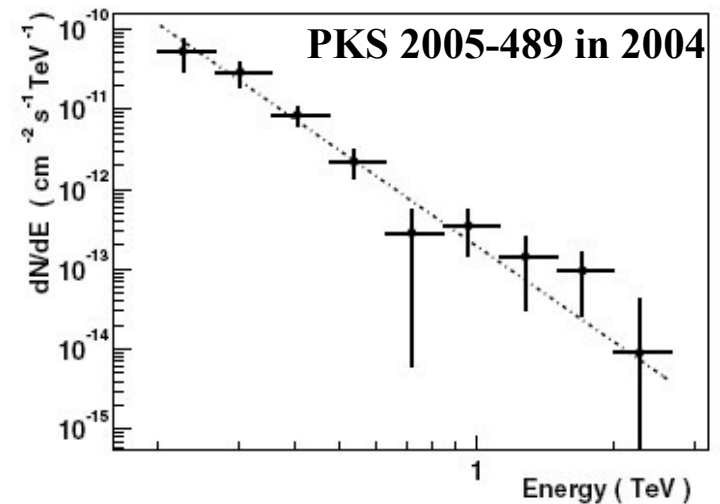
Most spectra follow a pure power-law with no features

- $dN/dE \sim E^{-\Gamma}$

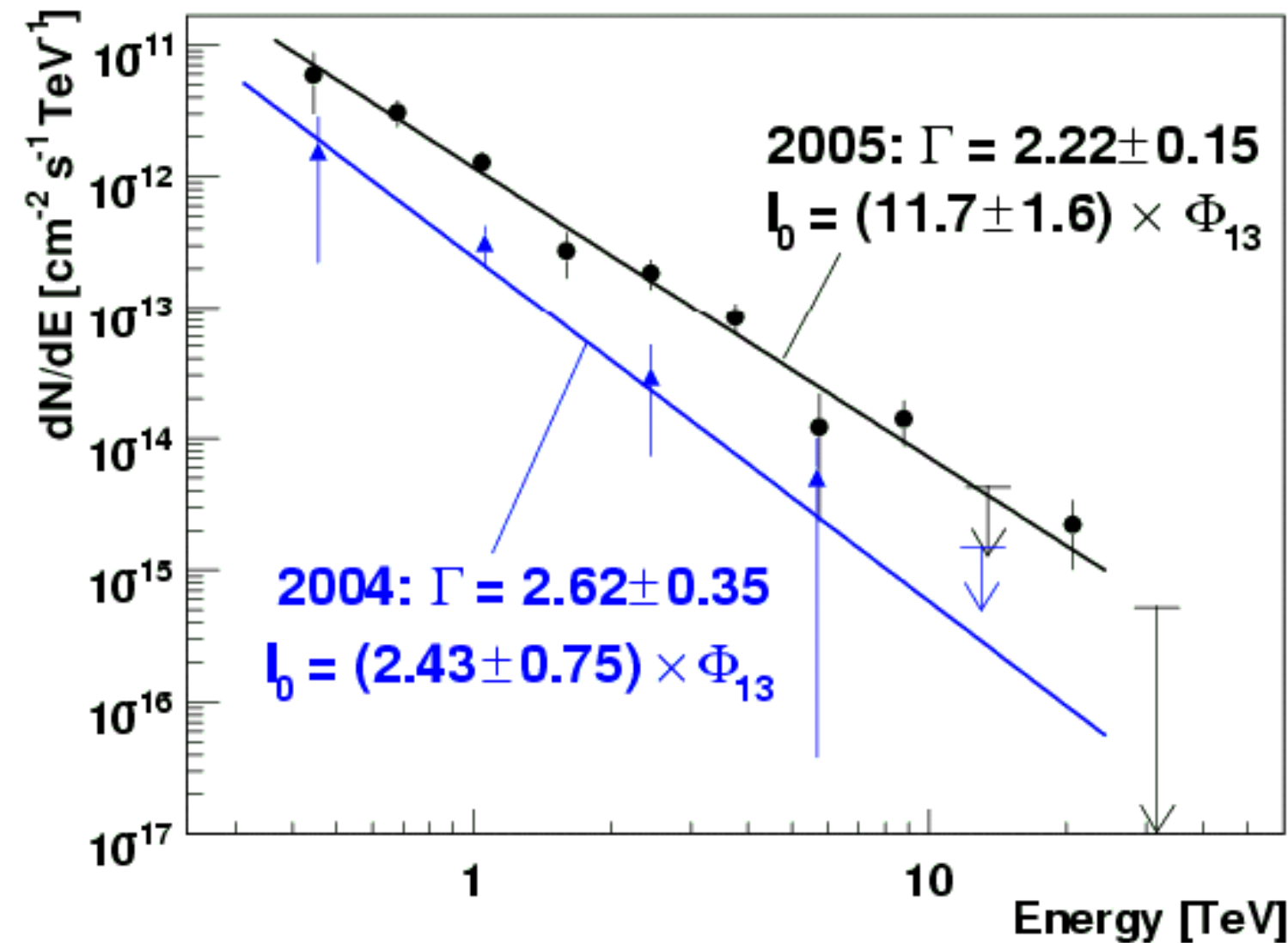
Soft spectra measured for all the H.E.S.S. BL Lacs:

- 1ES 1101-232:  $\Gamma = 2.88 \pm 0.17$
- H 2356-309:  $\Gamma = 3.06 \pm 0.21$
- PKS 2155-304:  $\Gamma = 3.32 \pm 0.06$
- PKS 2005-489:  $\Gamma = 4.0 \pm 0.4$
- PG 1553+113:  $\Gamma = 4.0 \pm 0.6$
- **Systematic Error: 0.1**
- Mkn 421:  $\Gamma = 2.1 \pm 0.1 \pm 0.3$ 
  - $E_{\text{cut}} = 3.1 (+0.5, -0.4) \pm 0.9 \text{ TeV}$

Note: Galactic sources typically have hard ( $\Gamma \sim 2.3$ ) spectra



# M 87 Spectrum is Hard



Annual spectra:

- 2004 ( $5\sigma$ )
- 2005 ( $10\sigma$ )

Both spectra follow a pure power-law:

- $dN/dE = I_0 (E/\text{TeV})^{-\Gamma}$
- $\Phi_{13} = 10^{-13} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ TeV}^{-1}$

Photon index similar

Flux is less in 2004

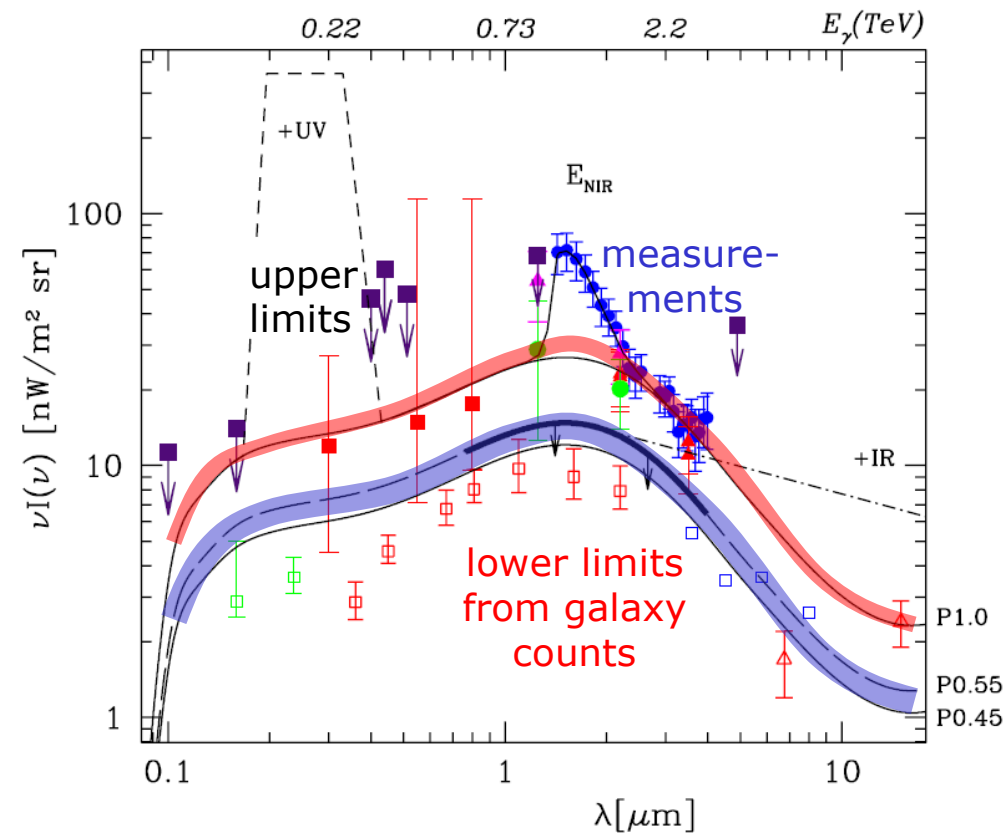
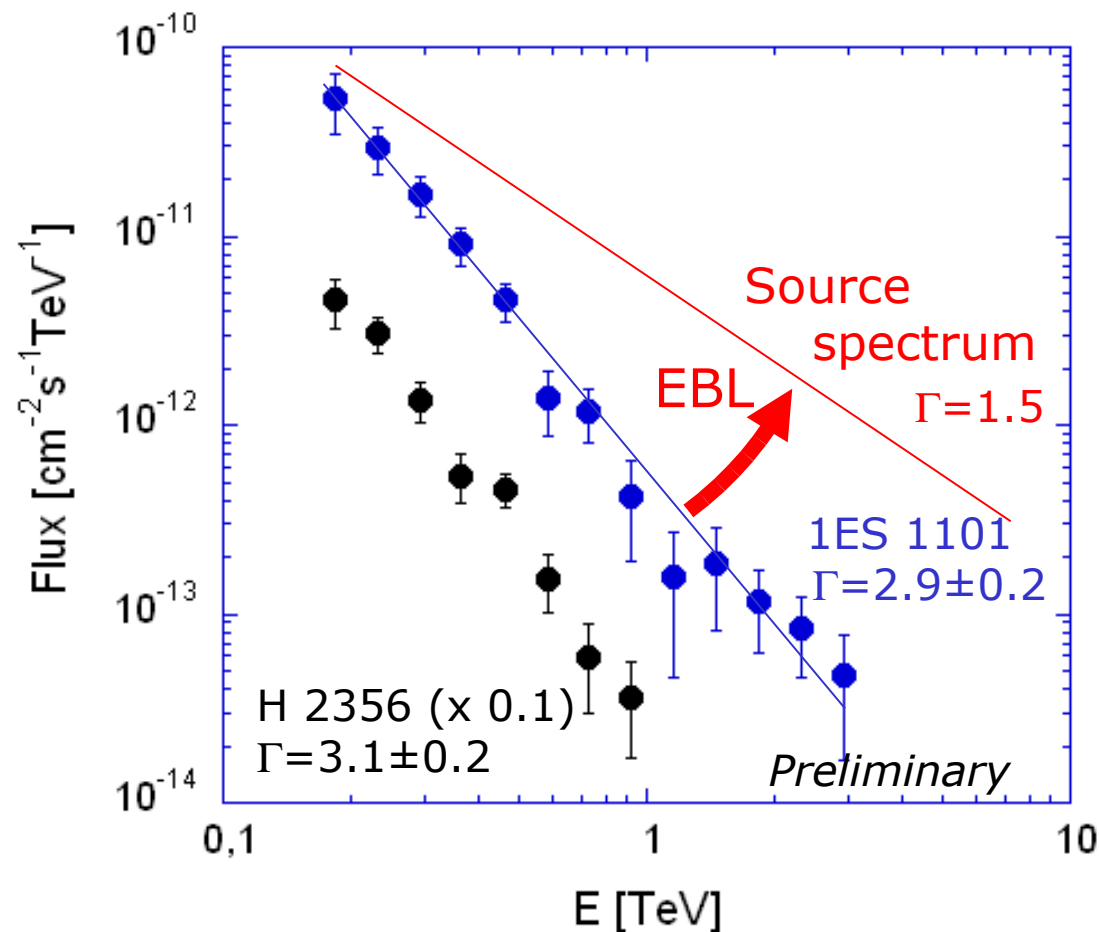


# Goal #3: Constrain EBL

Use features in observed spectra of distant VHE AGN  
Establish VHE gamma-ray horizon

# Distant BL Lacs

- VHE  $\gamma$ -rays absorbed by EBL
- Absorption increases with E & z
- Large z  $\Rightarrow$  Softer observed spectra
- More EBL = More absorption



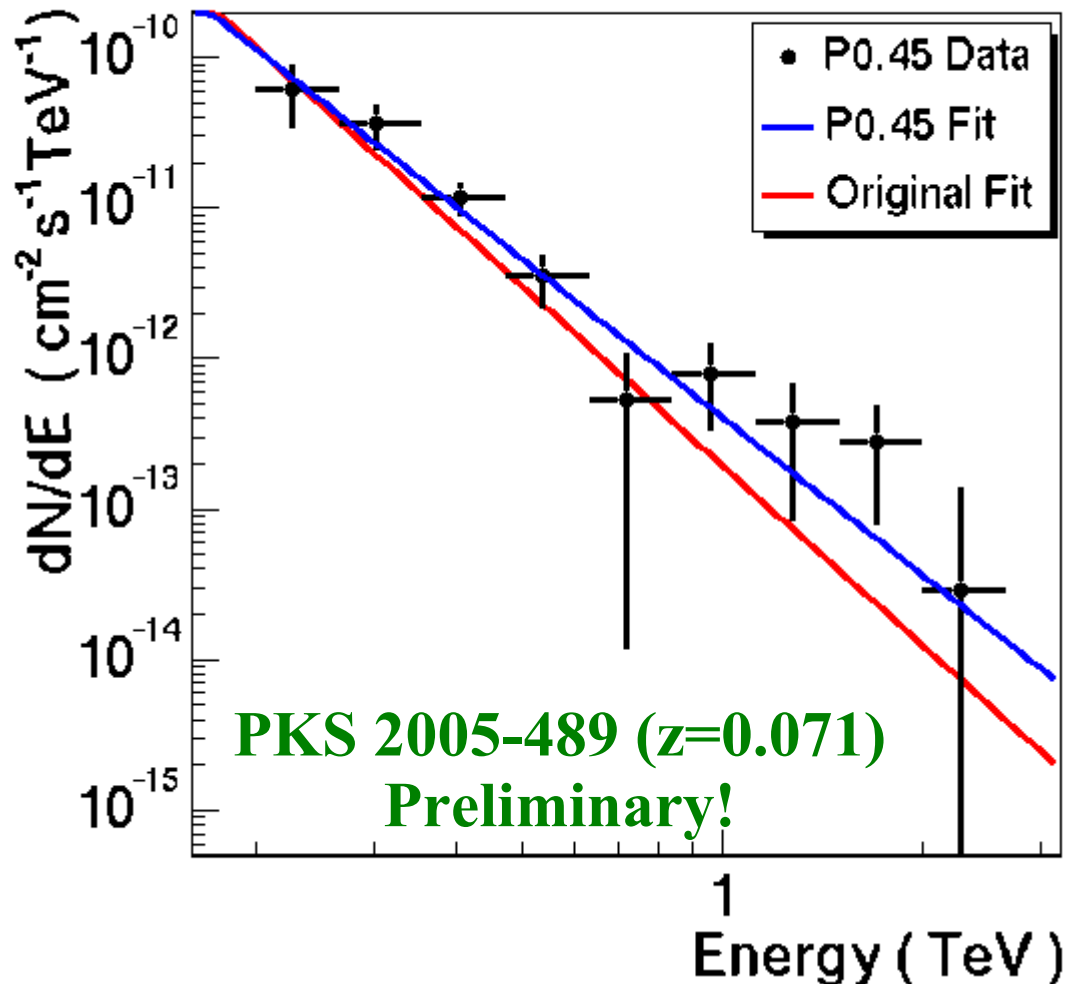
**EBL less than previously thought!**

- Density must be less than 0.45x shape
- Account for errors, etc  $\Rightarrow$  0.55x
- Within a factor of 2 of lower limits

**We can see much further in VHE!**  
Nature 440, 1018, 2006



# Soft spectra not “only” from EBL



## Observed spectrum:

- $\Gamma = 4.0 \pm 0.4$
- $I(>200 \text{ GeV}) \sim 6.9 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

## High EBL Flux:

- $\Gamma = 3.0 \pm 0.4$

## H.E.S.S. EBL Limit (P0.45):

- $\Gamma = 3.5 \pm 0.4$
- $I(>200 \text{ GeV}) \sim 7.8 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

Softness of spectrum is mostly intrinsic to PKS 2005-489  
Inverse-Compton peak  $< 100 \text{ GeV}$

# The Case of PG 1553+113

## VHE candidate:

- Costamante & Ghisellini (2002)
- VHE upper limits from Whipple & Milagro
- Catalog redshift is 0.36

## HESS detected in 2005

### Catalog redshift ( $z=0.36$ ) incorrect!

- Falomo & Treves, 1990
- No lines found in  $\sim 10$  attempts

### No host galaxy in HST images:

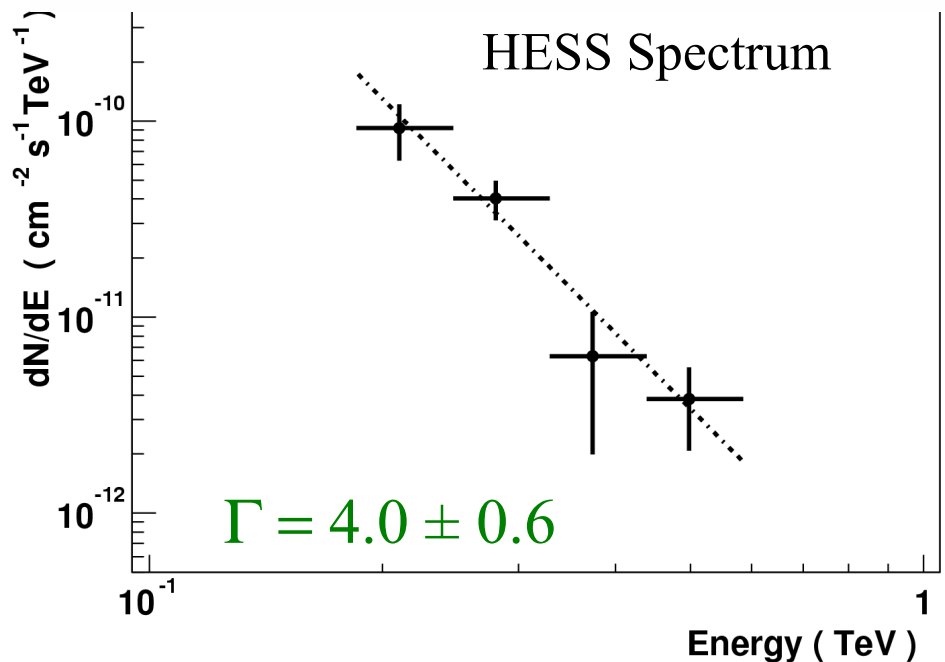
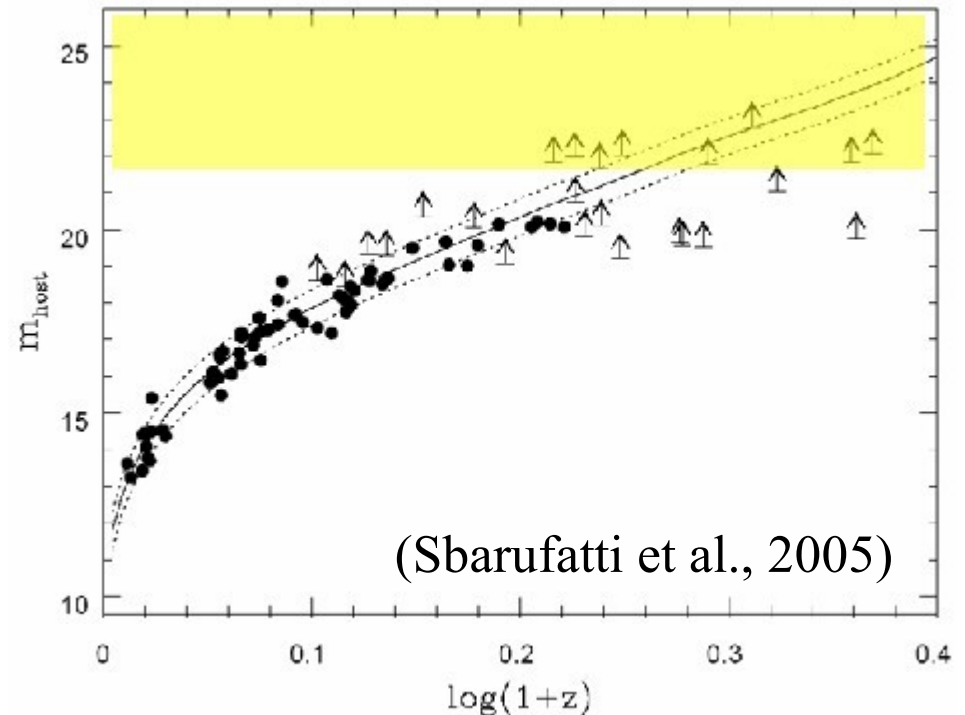
- All HST BL Lacs with  $z < 0.25$  have resolved hosts
- $\sim 75\%$  of HST BL Lacs with  $0.25 < z < 0.6$  have resolved hosts

### $z > 0.78$ (Sbarufatti et al., 2005)

- Recently  $z > 0.09$  (astro-ph/0601506)

### Determining redshift is important!

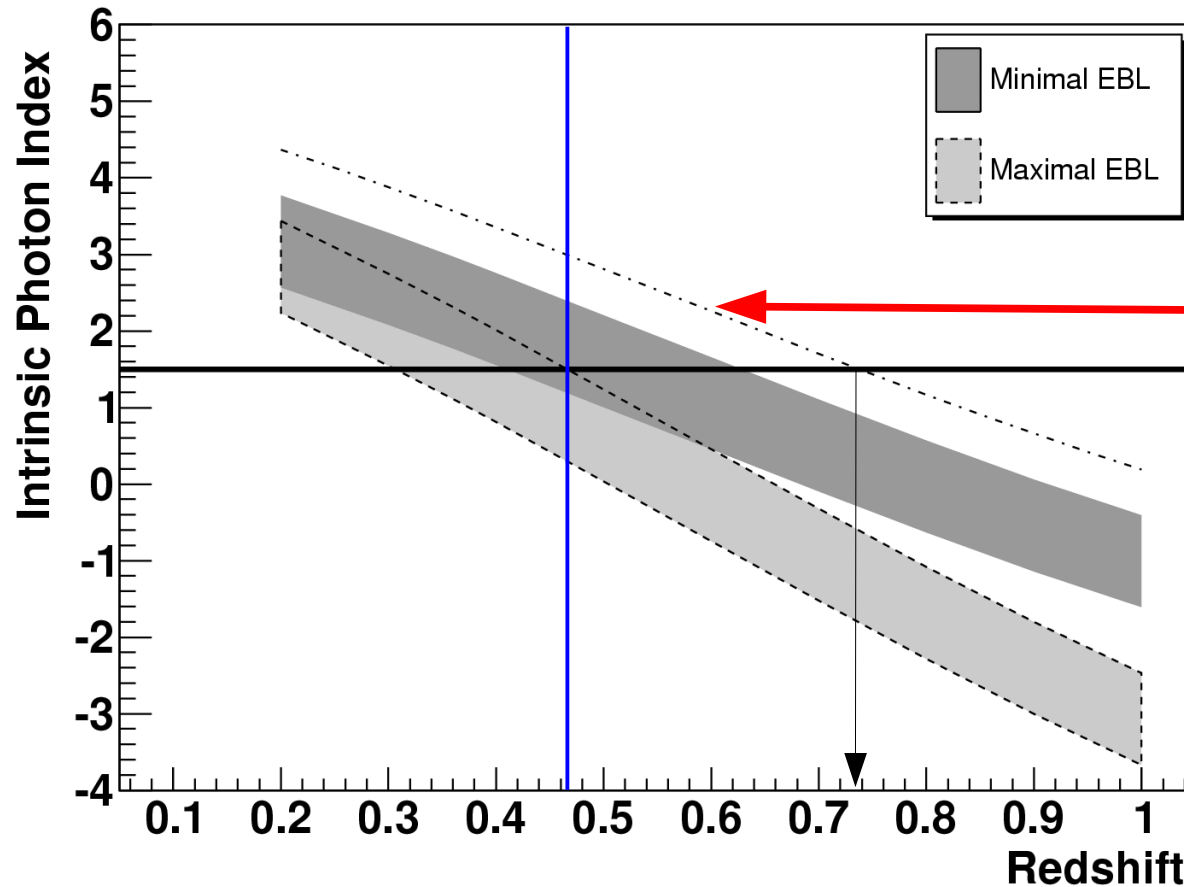
- H.E.S.S. received 5 hrs of VLT time on PG 1553+113 (IR to mid-IR) in early 2006
- Analysis on going





# Cosmological Interpretation

If  $z > 0.47$ :  
Spectrum is  
more  
constraining  
than HESS  
EBL limit!



**Minimal EBL** = Deabsorbed with 0.6x Primack 2001 EBL; **Galaxy Counts**

**Maximal EBL** = Deabsorbed with 0.85x Primack 2001 EBL; **HESS EBL Limit**

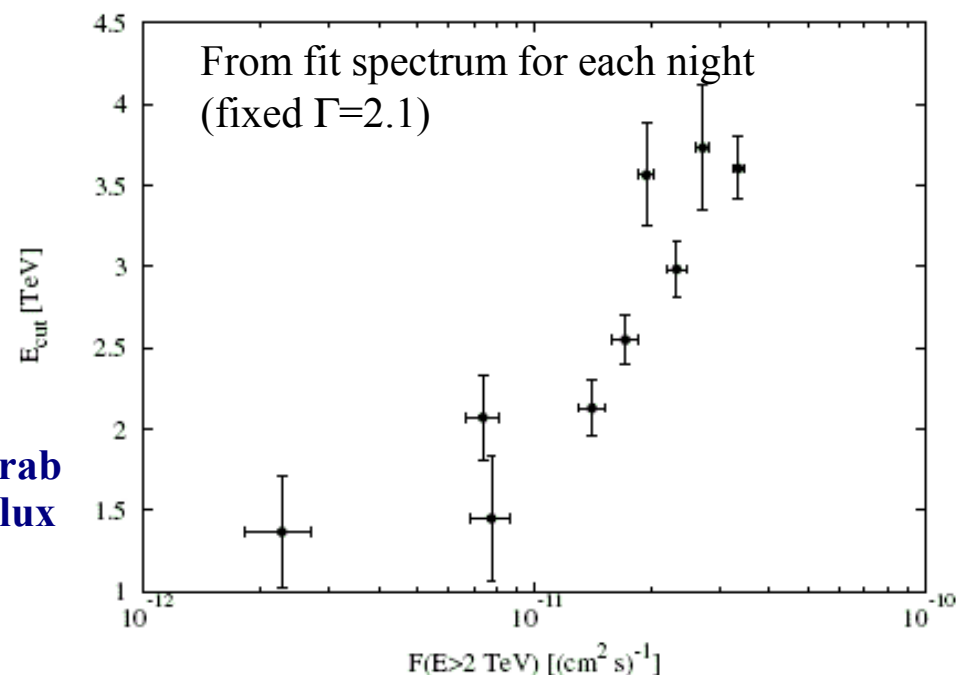
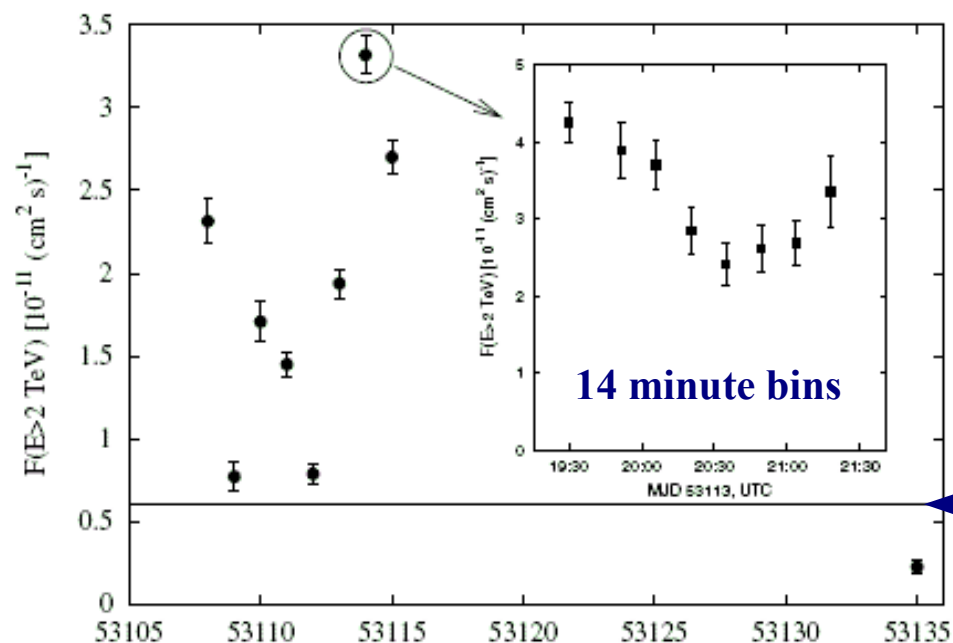
**Why Primack 2001 EBL?** Includes effects of galaxy evolution

# Goal #4: Study VHE Variability

Establish variability time scales  
Search for temporal spectral evolution (i.e. hardening)



# Extreme Flux Variability: Mkn 421

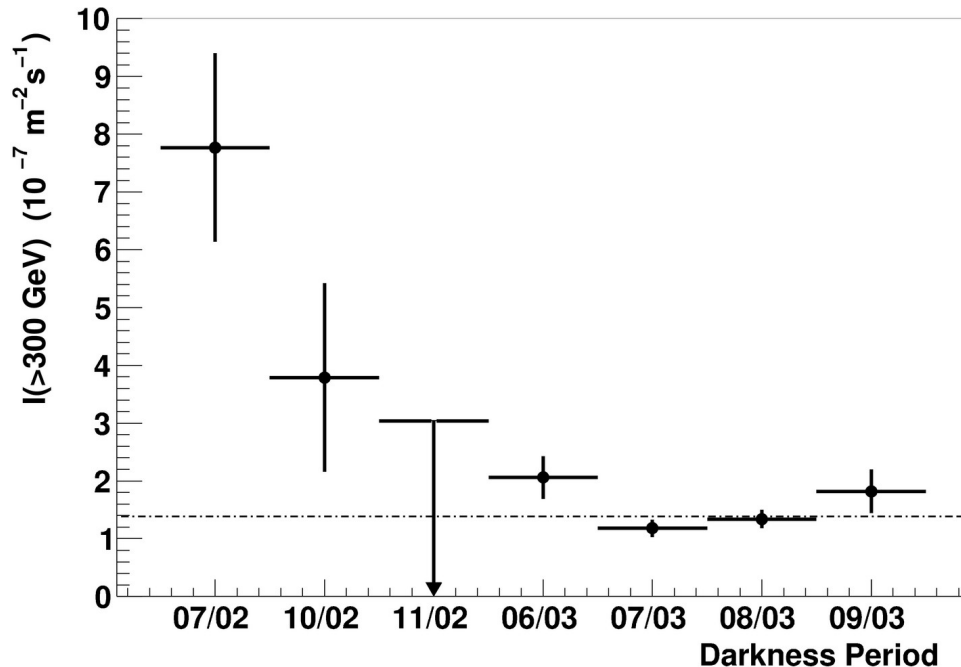


**Flux ( $>2 \text{ TeV}$ ) varies by factor of 4.3; Average value  $\sim 3$  Crab**  
**Doubling time-scale less than 1 hour**

**Clear evidence for spectral hardening with increased flux!**

**Note: Data taken at extremely large zenith angle**

# Variability of PKS 2155-304

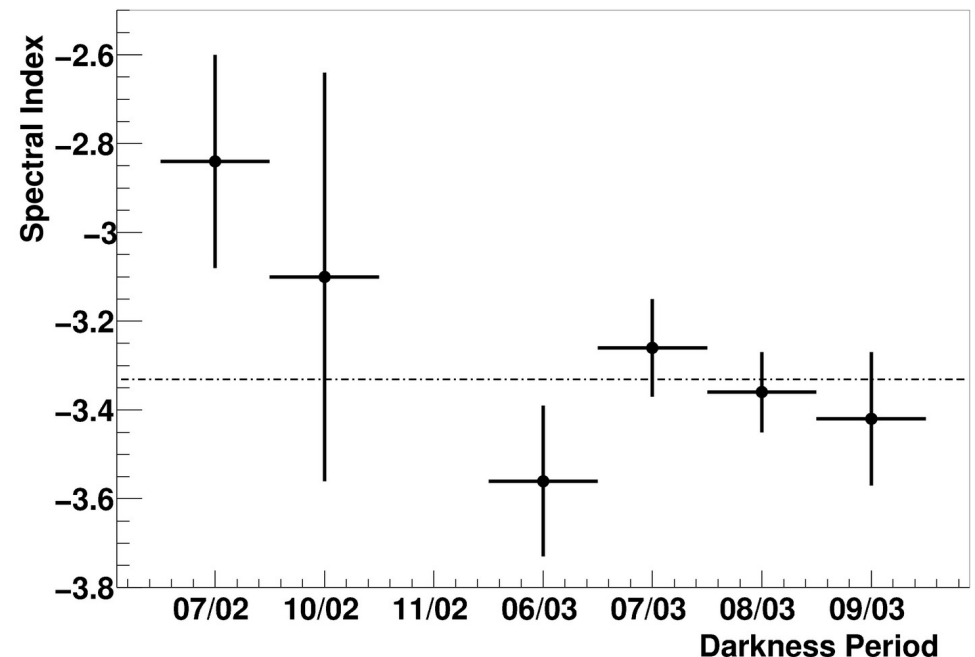


**VHE flux is clearly variable  
on monthly time-scales**

**$I(>300 \text{ GeV})$  ranges from  
0.1 Crab to 0.6 Crab**

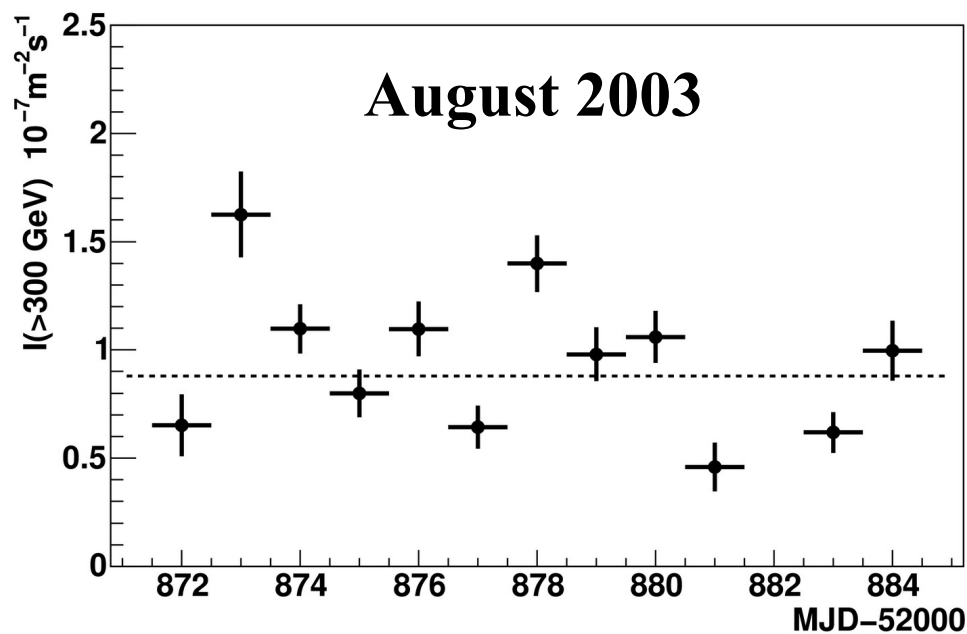
**No evidence for variability of  
photon index or spectral  
hardening with increased flux,  
but it is not ruled out either**

**PKS 2155-304 VHE flux &  
spectrum ~same in late 2003,  
all 2004 & all 2005 data**



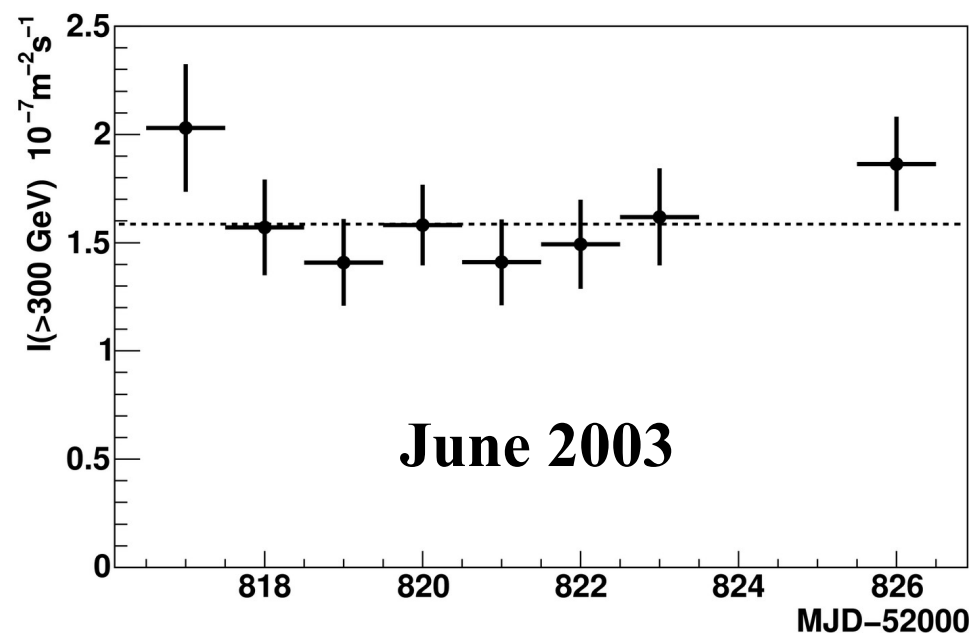


# Nightly VHE Flux Variability

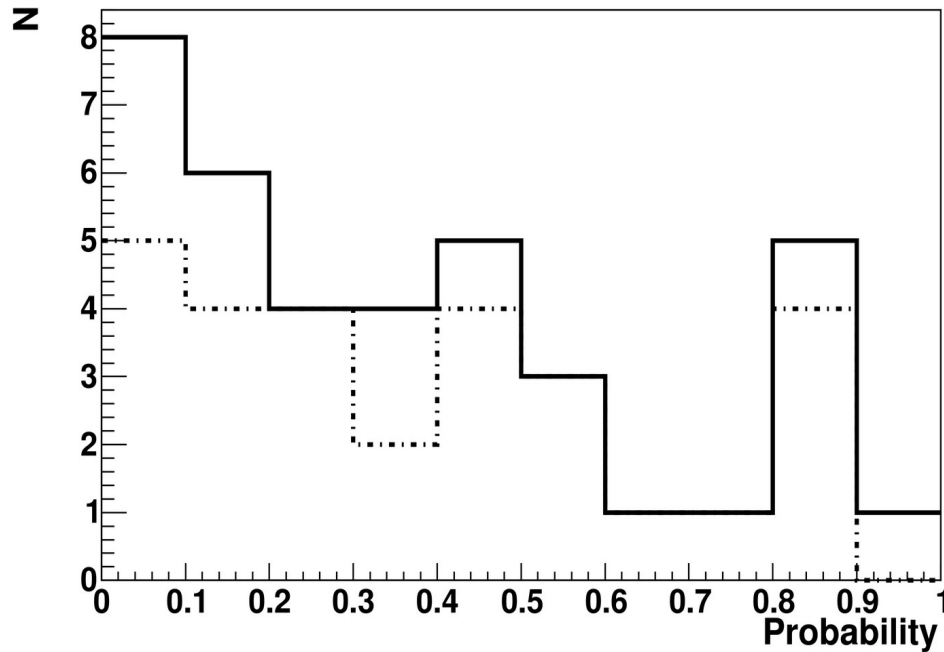


**Clear evidence for VHE flux variability on nightly time-scales in some dark periods**

**However, the flux is also stable in some dark periods**



# Intra-Nightly Flux Variability



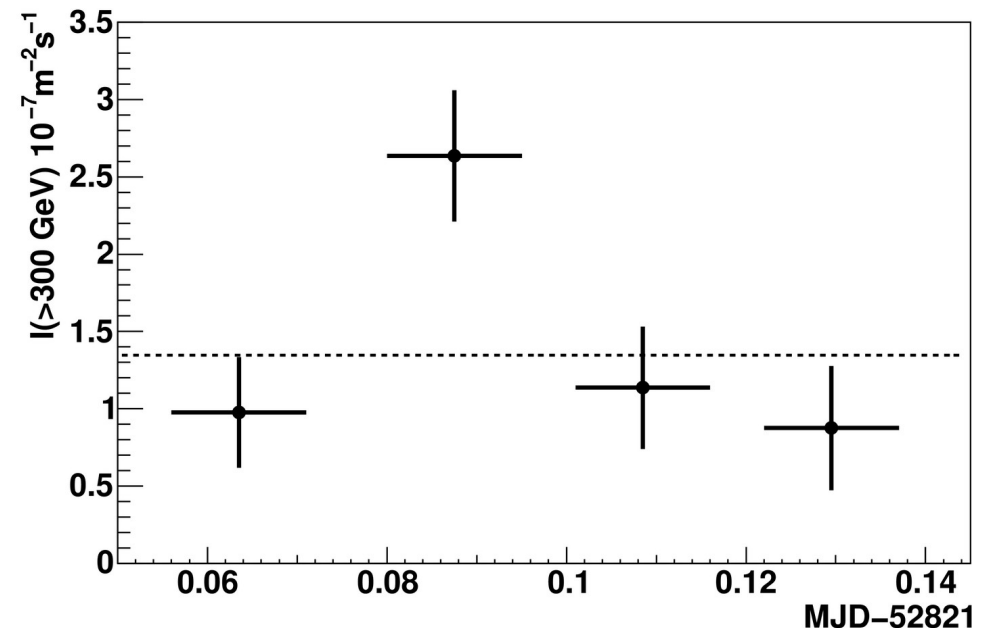
Fit a constant to the VHE flux  
(~30 min intervals) within each  
night

- Dashed line is for  $>1$  d.o.f.

**Population of nights with a low  
 $\chi^2$  probability**

**Sub-hourly changes on the night  
with the most significant flux  
variability:**

- Increase by a factor of  $2.7 \pm 0.7$   
in 30 minutes
- Decrease by a factor of  $2.3 \pm 0.9$   
in the next 30 minutes

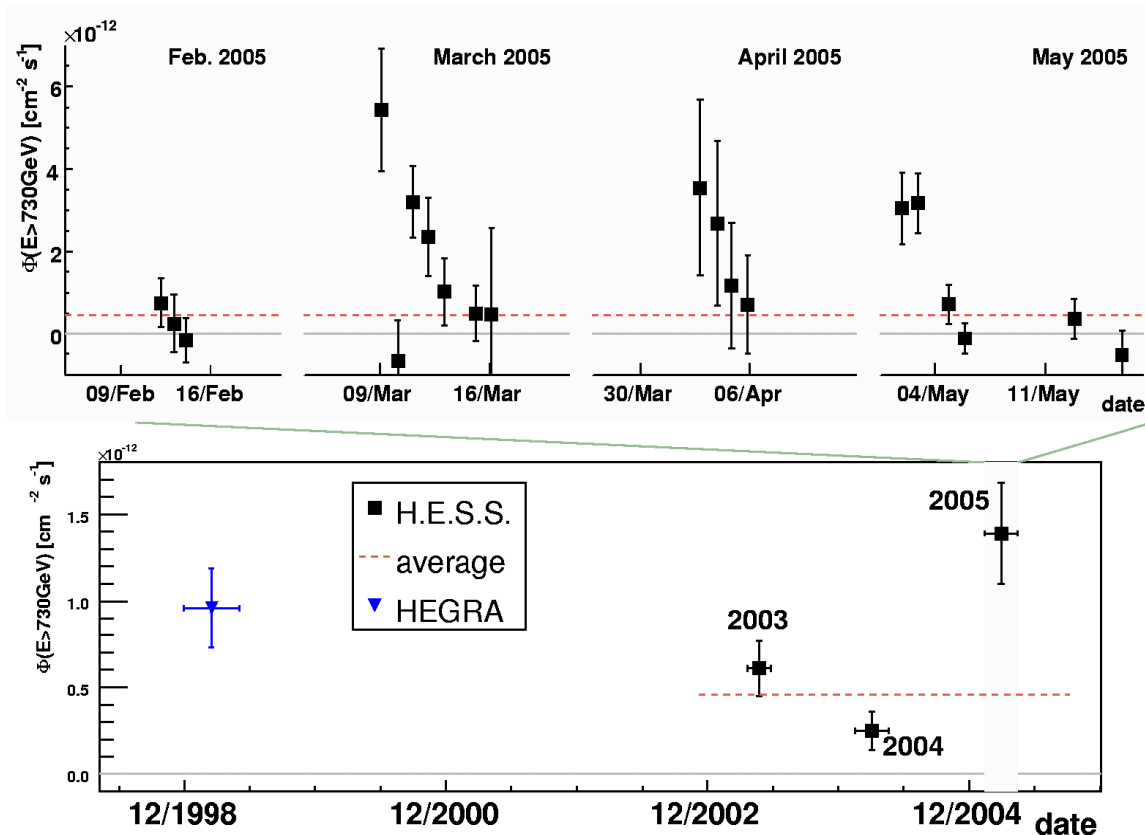




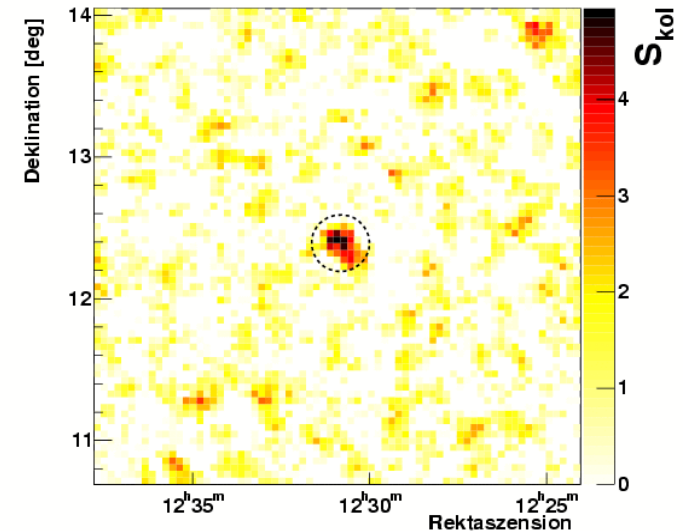
# Generally Limited VHE Flux Variability

- **PKS 2005-489:**
  - Marginal indications that source was brighter in 2004 than 2003
  - No short-term ( $< 1$  yr) flux or spectral variability in 2003 or 2004
  - $\sim 60$  hrs of good quality H.E.S.S. data in 2005 (source detected)
- **H 2356-309:**
  - No short-term flux or spectral variability in 2004 data
  - $\sim 60$  hrs of good quality H.E.S.S. data in 2005 (source detected)
- **1ES 1101-232:**
  - No flux or spectral variability on any time scale (2004 & 2005 same)
  - $\sim 15$  hrs of unknown quality in 2006 (source detected)
- **PG 1553+113:**
  - No evidence for short-term variability in 2005 H.E.S.S. data
  - $\sim 10$  hrs of unknown quality in 2006 so far... (source detected)
  - MAGIC: Factor of 3 in flux between 2005 & 2006 (astro-ph/0606161)

# > 730 GeV Flux Variability from M 87



## Kolmogorov-Test



Apply Kolmogorov test to  
distribution of photon  
arrival times:  $4\sigma$  variability

Fit a constant to annual HESS data:  $3.2\sigma$  variability

**Surprise:** Fit of a constant to 2005 nightly flux shows  $>4\sigma$  variability

Fast variability, hard spectrum & point-like emission from core is  
very difficult to model: Excludes most!



# Goal #5: AGN Modeling

Use H.E.S.S. results with simultaneous observations at other wavelengths to gain insight into AGN physics

# AGN Multi-wavelength Campaigns

## Blazars highly variable

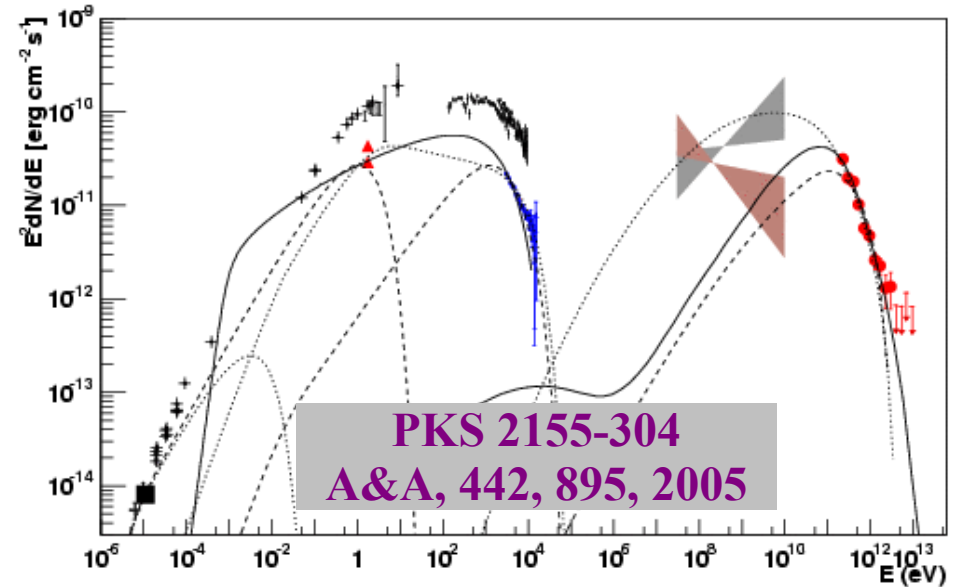
- Complications using VHE data to model archival measurements

## Need: Simultaneous radio, optical, X-ray & VHE observations

- Model the SED
- Search for correlated variability & orphan flares

## H.E.S.S. has 12 total (so far...)

- 3 for PKS 2155-304
  - 2 XTE, 1 XTE + Spitzer
- 3 for PKS 2005-489
  - 1 XTE, 2 XMM
- 3 for 1ES 1101-232
  - 1 XMM, 1 XTE, 1 Suzaku
- 2 for H 2356-309
  - 1 XTE, 1 XMM
- 1 for Mkn 421 (MAGIC & Suzaku)



Leptonic (dashed & dotted lines) &  
Hadronic (solid line) models

## 1 more scheduled for 2006:

- PG 1553+113 with Suzaku, MAGIC & H.E.S.S.

## Several ToO proposals:

- Chandra, XTE, Suzaku



# PKS 2155-304 MWL Campaign

## Simultaneous observations in October & November 2003

- VHE: H.E.S.S. (2-tels.)
- X-ray: RXTE
- Optical: ROTSE
- Radio: NRT

## Clear flux variability

- VHE, X-ray, optical

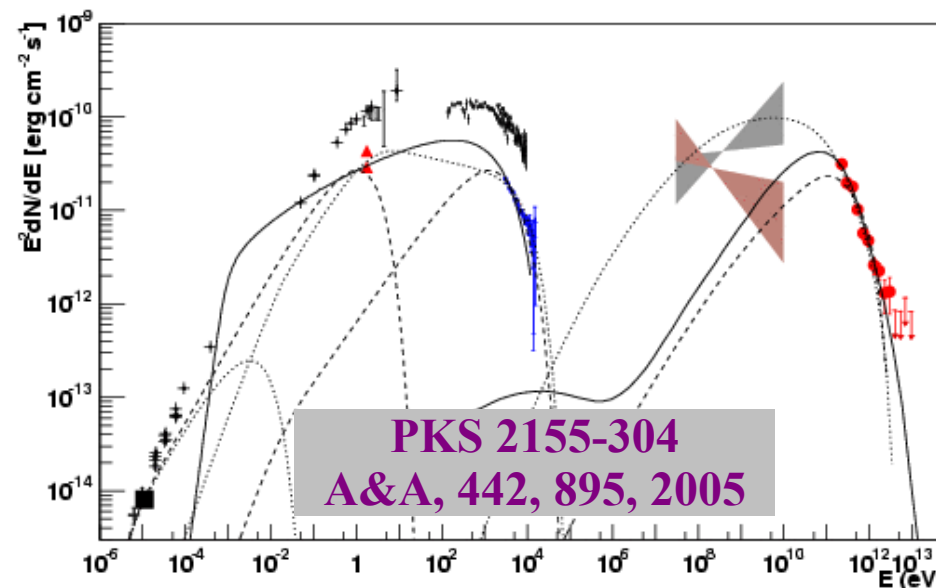
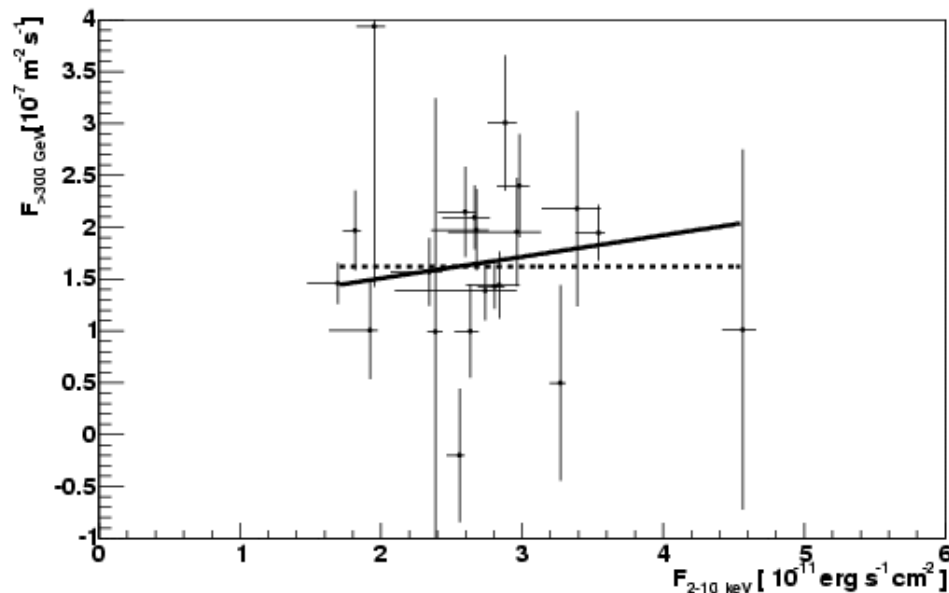
## No evidence for correlated flux variability

- Smaller data set (~11 hrs)

## X-ray & optical fluxes are historical lows

## Reasonable fits in hadronic & leptonic scenarios

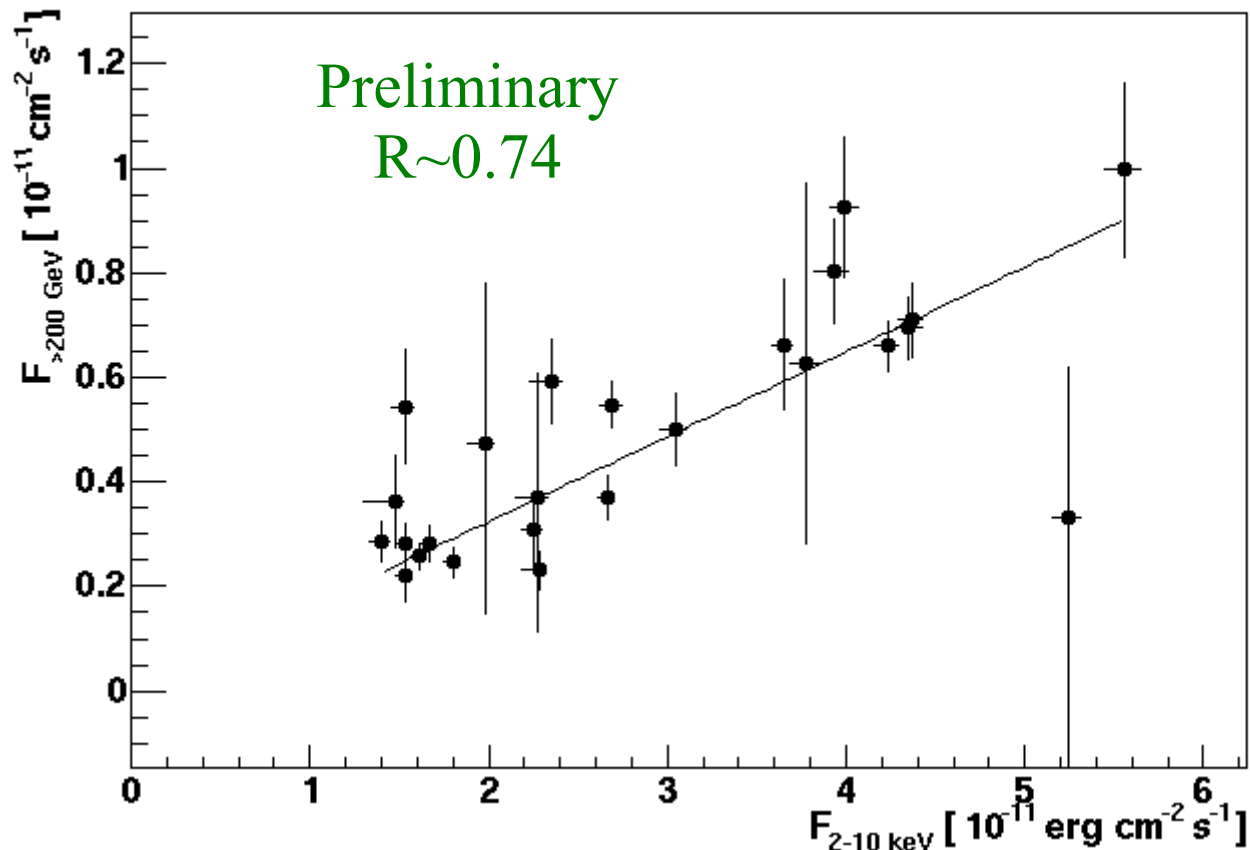
- Parameters in normal ranges with low EBL level



Leptonic (dashed & dotted lines) &  
Hadronic (solid line) models

# MWL: Correlated X-ray/VHE Variability

Largest MWL campaign “ever” with VHE: PKS 2155-304 in 2004  
H.E.S.S.: ~130 hours; RXTE, Spitzer, Radio, Optical



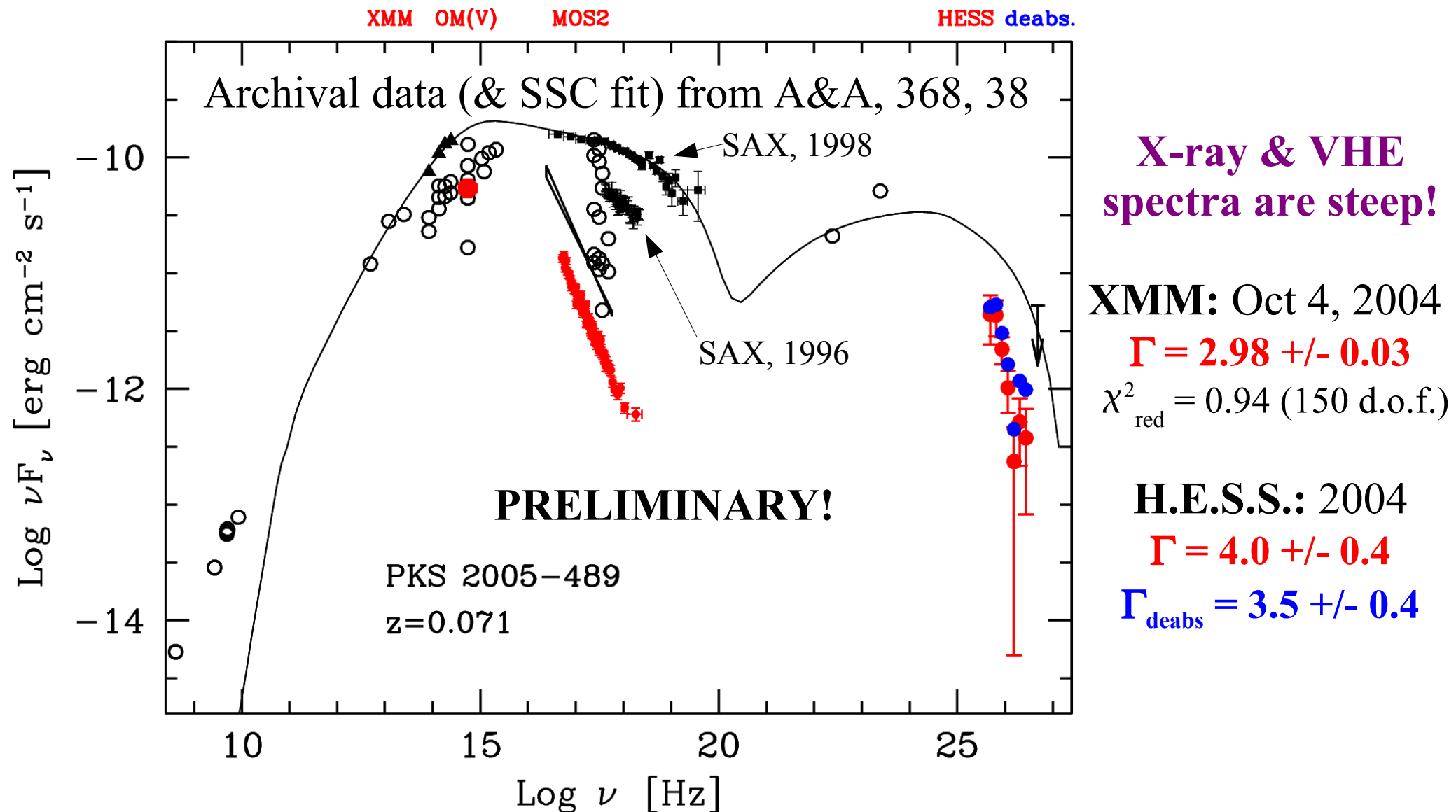
**Clear indication for correlated X-ray/VHE flux variability**

Only strictly simultaneous data shown!

Implies: Same particle population responsible for X-ray/VHE flux



# PKS 2005-489 SED from 2004



**H.E.S.S. detection in lowest "ever" X-ray state!**  
**No optical, X-ray, or VHE flux variability!**

# H 2356-309 MWL Campaign in 2004

VHE: H.E.S.S. (~40 hrs)

X-ray: RXTE (5.4 ks)

Optical: ROTSE

Radio: NRT

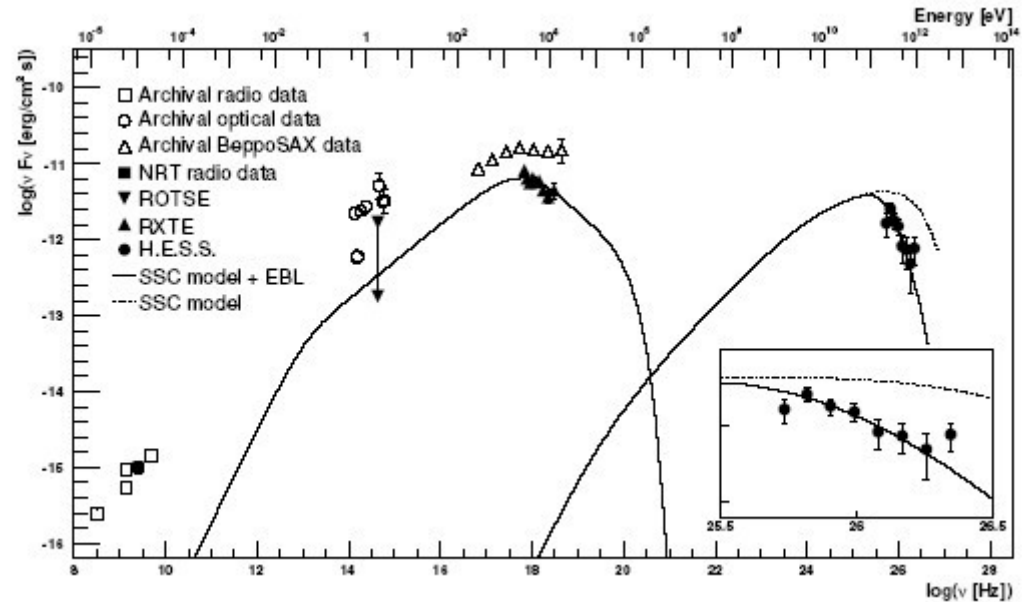
No VHE, X-ray, optical variability!

X-ray:  $\Gamma = 2.43 \pm 0.11$

- Lowest flux & softest spectrum ever

Fit SED: A “simple”,  
1-zone, time-independent,  
homogeneous SSC model

- Radio from elsewhere
- Optical treated as UL



Reasonable parameters give good fit:

- Spherical emission region:  $R = 3.4 \times 10^{15}$  cm
- $B = 0.16$  G
- Doppler factor = 18
- Electron distribution = BPL

Aharonian et al., *A&A*, in press, 2006



# Cooperation with MAGIC

VHE threshold increases with zenith angle

- Northern object => HESS LZA & MAGIC SZA; & vice versa

Use both instruments to simultaneously observe an object (e.g. Mkn 421):

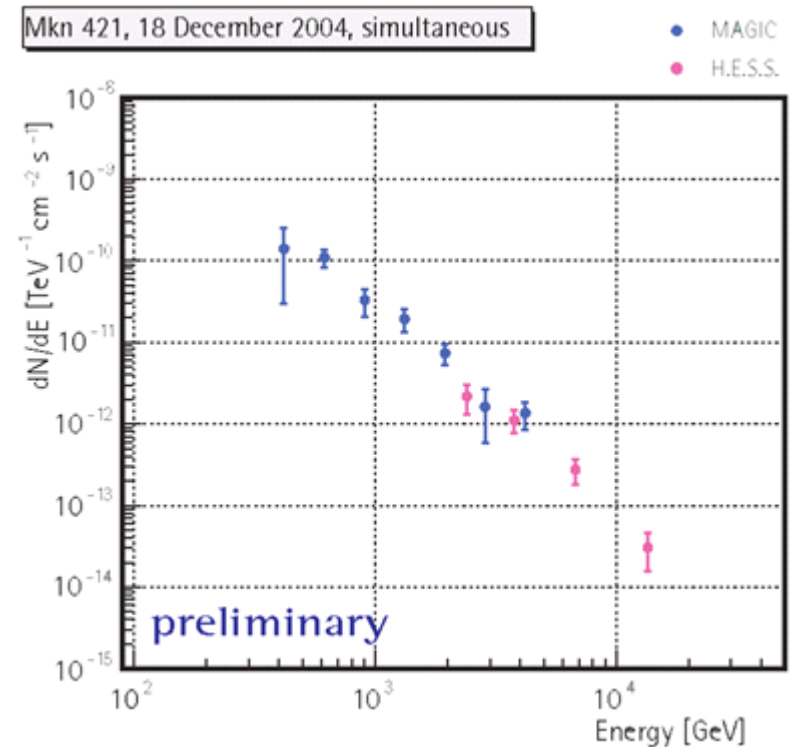
- Spectral measurement at different energy ranges
- Cross calibration

December 2004: Mkn 421 met proposed trigger threshold (flux)

- ~1 hr of simultaneous obs.

Agreement to perform similar campaign on other objects:

- PG 1553+113 in July 2005



D. Mazin et al., poster at 29th Int. Cosmic Ray Conf., Pune, 2005

Another ~2 hr Mkn 421  
campaign in April 2006  
also with Suzaku!



# 2006 AGN Program

Monitor known VHE AGN (10 hrs each)

“All” C&G HBL ( $\delta < 20^\circ$ , 10 hrs each)

- **New candidates** (new surveys & larger  $z$ )

Extend VHE classes

- 3 Seyfert galaxies (10 hr each)
- 3C 273 (FSRQ, 30 hrs)
- Pictor A (FR I, 30 hrs)
- Cen A (FR I, 50 hrs)

New ideas (10 hrs each):

- Some EGRET LBL, a unique IBL, a unique HFSRQ

Continue MWL efforts





# H.E.S.S. has detected 7 VHE AGN!

## Doubles VHE AGN catalog (13)

- 4 “discoveries”
- 2 1<sup>st</sup> confirmations of “weak” detections

## Several are most distant ever

- Strong constraints on EBL
- PG 1553+113 ( $z < 0.74$ )



## Not much variability!

- Generally “low” state

## Soft spectra: $\Gamma > 3$

- Not only EBL effect!

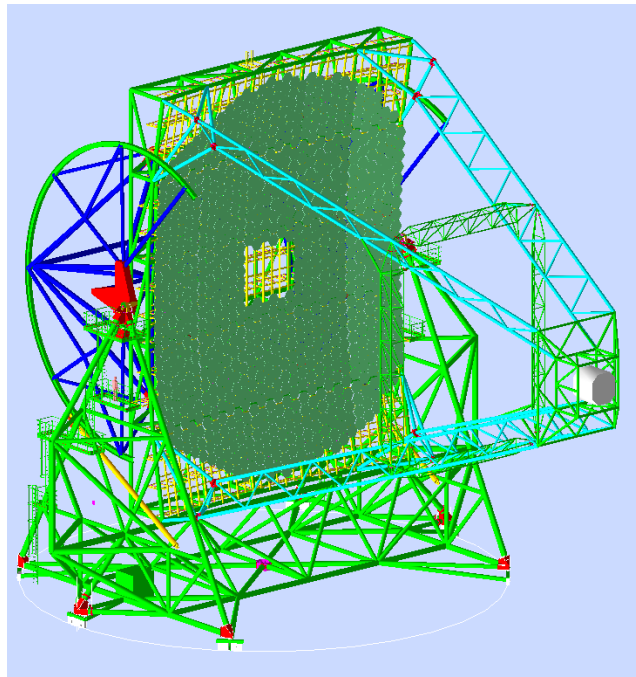
## 12 MWL campaigns

- SED modeling & correlated variability

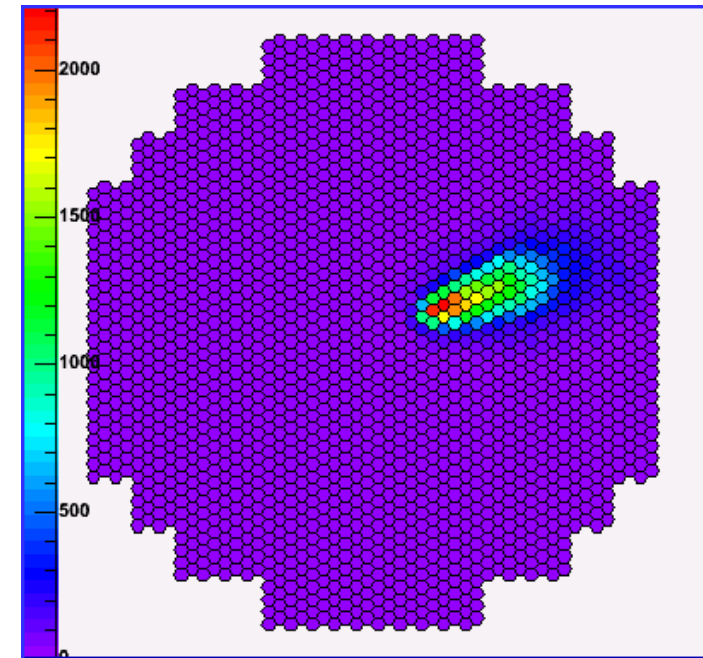
>400 hrs of unpublished AGN data



# The Future: H.E.S.S. Phase-II



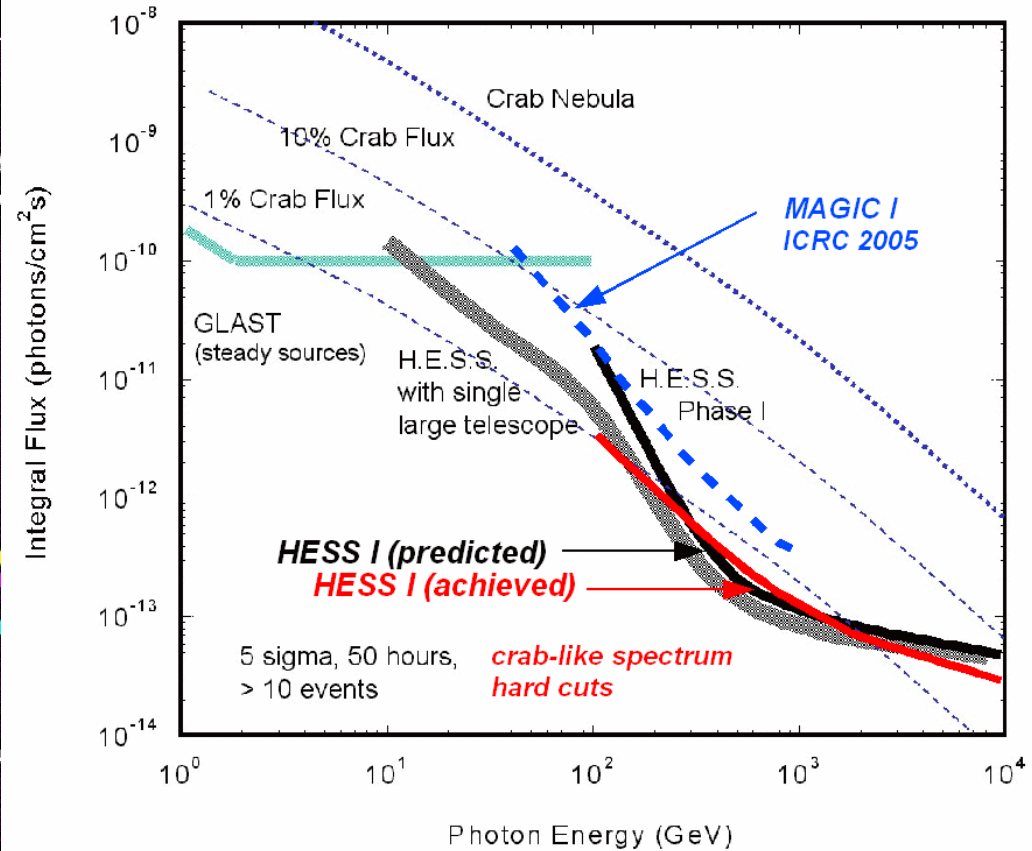
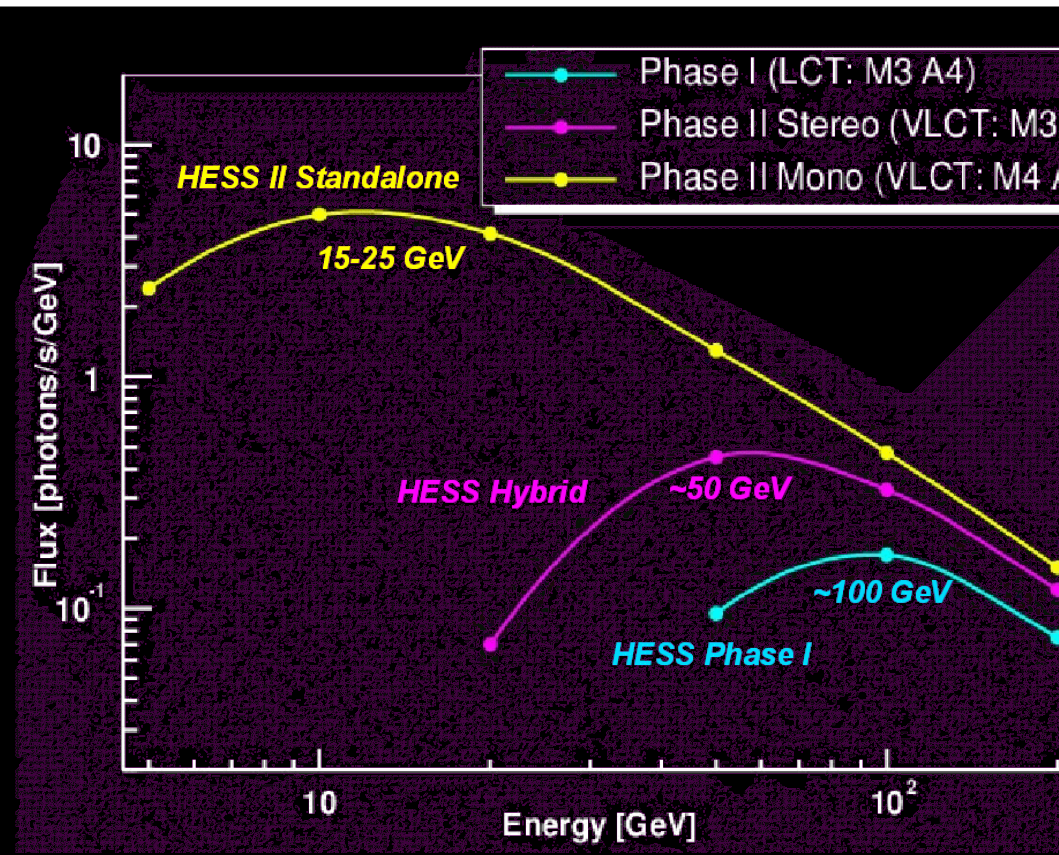
- Diameter = 30 m
- Focal length = 36 m
- Rigid steel structure:  $\sim 560$  tons
- 851 mirrors
- Mirror area =  $\sim 600 \text{ m}^2$
- 2048 pixel camera
- Pixel size:  $0.07^\circ$
- $3.6^\circ$  field of view



**Telescope: 2007; Camera & Mirrors: 2008; Data: 2009**



# Phase II: Threshold & Sensitivity



← **Let's see and learn**
← **Guaranteed new window**
← **Improved Sensitivity**



Thank you for your time!





# How does H.E.S.S. detect high-energy gamma rays?

