



# Constraining the nature of the emission in PeVatrons observed by Alpaca.

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ICRR Inter-University Research Program FY2024  
January 29, 2025

**ALPACA** *Experiment*  
Andes Large area PArticle detector for Cosmic ray physics and Astronomy

# UHE $\gamma$ -ray Astronomy:


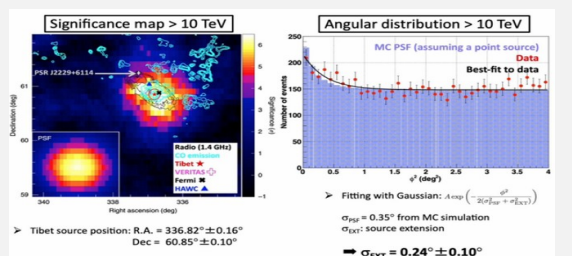
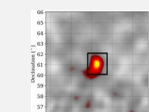

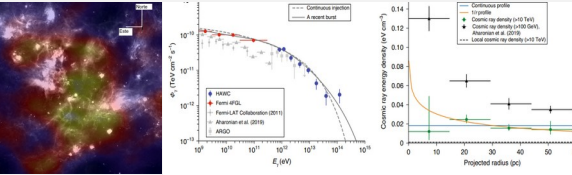

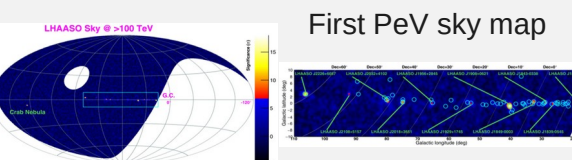
2021: A new window in Astronomy: A transition from Tevatrons to PeVatrons:

Gamma-Ray Ultra-High Energy ( $E > 100$  TeV).


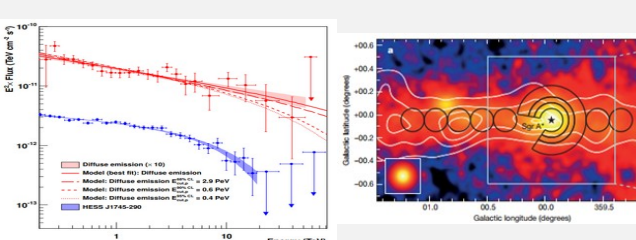
If we detect energies  $> 100$  TeVs (gamma rays) from astronomical sources (*accelerator*), the expected particle acceleration is  $> 1$  PeV (energy per beam).

## The rise of the PeV era (Pevatrons)

Time-line Observationally speaking (high energy sensitivity):

High sensitivity observatory (By year pub.)	Remarkably Contribution Object: reference and year	Results	Comments and Remarks
 <p>Energy range: Beyond 100 TeV</p>	<p>SNR G106.3+2.7 Nature Astronomy, 5, 460 (2021) Published: 2021/03/06 Confirmation as PeVatron</p>	 <p>Significance map <math>&gt; 10</math> TeV Angular distribution <math>&gt; 10</math> TeV Tibet source position: R.A. = <math>336.82^\circ \pm 0.16^\circ</math> Dec = <math>60.85^\circ \pm 0.10^\circ</math> <math>\sigma_{\text{EXT}} = 0.24^\circ \pm 0.10^\circ</math></p>	<p>HAWC Coll. ApJL, 896, L20 (2020):  Crab Nebula paper: PRL, 123, 051101 (2019)</p>
 <p>Energy range: 100 GeV to 100 TeV</p>	<p>Cygnus Cocoon (FERMI-LAT) Nature Astronomy, 5, 465 (2021) Published: 2021/04/06 Star-Clusters as PeVatron</p>		<p>Star forming region at Cygnus-X: Cyg-OB2 Association Crab Nebula paper: ApJ, 881, 134 (2019)</p>
 <p>Energy range: 0.1 TeV to 0.1 EeV</p>	<p>North Sky (<math>&gt; 1.4</math> PeV) Nature, 594, 33 (2021) Published: 2021/05/17 Sky map and 12 PeV candidates (galactic)</p>	 <p>First PeV sky map</p>	<p>Crab Nebula as PeVatron: Science, 373, 425 (2021/07/08)</p>

Reference work where the term “PeVatron” was coined by first time in 2016 (Obs+predictions):

<p>Energy range: 10s of GeV to 10s of TeV.</p> 	<p>Galactic Center Study Nature, 531, 476 (2016) Published: 2016/03/16 Suggesting Sag. A* black hole could be the PeVatron</p>		<p>This work is the first robust detection of a VHE cosmic hadronic accelerator As PeVatron, HESS refer to hadrons Previous GC observations by IACTs HESS: 2004, 2006 MAGIC: 2006, 2016 VERITAS: 2011</p>
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# ALPACA *Experiment*

Andes Large area Particle detector for Cosmic ray physics and Astronomy



The ALPACA experiment is a new project aimed at the observation of cosmic rays and gamma rays, launched between Bolivia and Japan in 2016. Its primary motivation is the continuous observation of [ultra-high-energy gamma rays](#), for the first time in the southern hemisphere, with a wide field of view and with the world's best sensitivity. The participation of Mexico starts in 202

## AIMS:

To participate in the construction and data analysis of the experiment focused in PeVatrons.

With a developed methodology, to determine the density of nucleons in order to test the hadronic nature emission of PeV gamma-rays in PeVatrons in the southern hemisphere, richer in Pevatrons than the northern hemisphere. This analysis needs molecular gas observations.

Synergy with other experiments and observatories including X-Ray observations



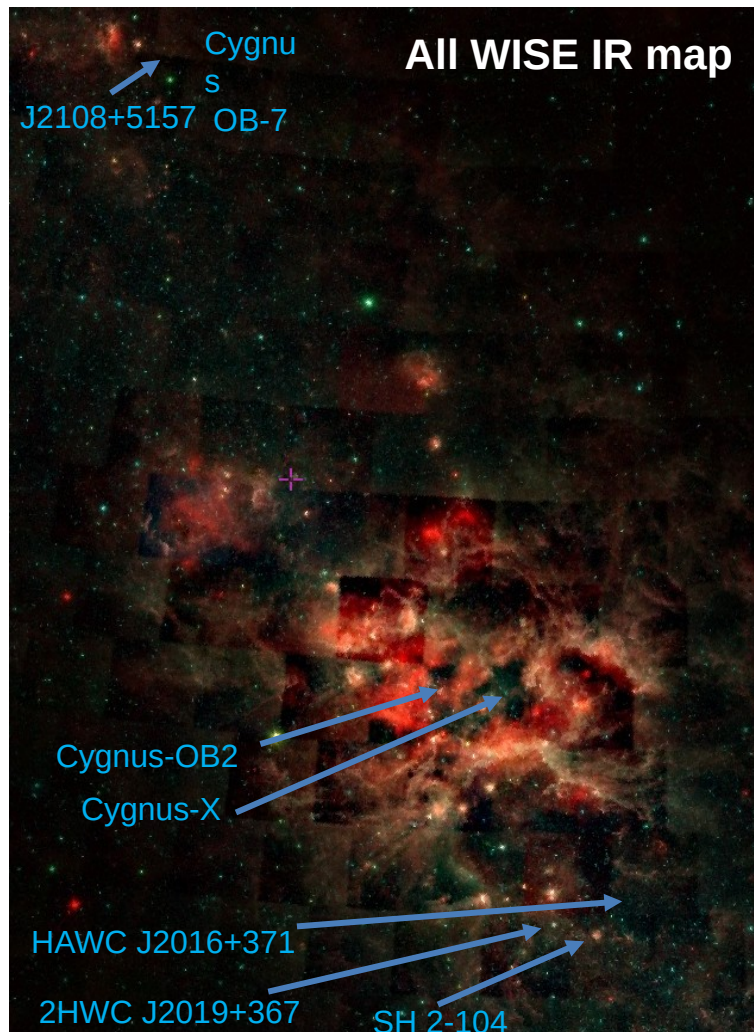
# LHASSO J2108+5157

## Discovery of the Ultrahigh-energy Gamma-Ray Source LHAASO J2108+5157

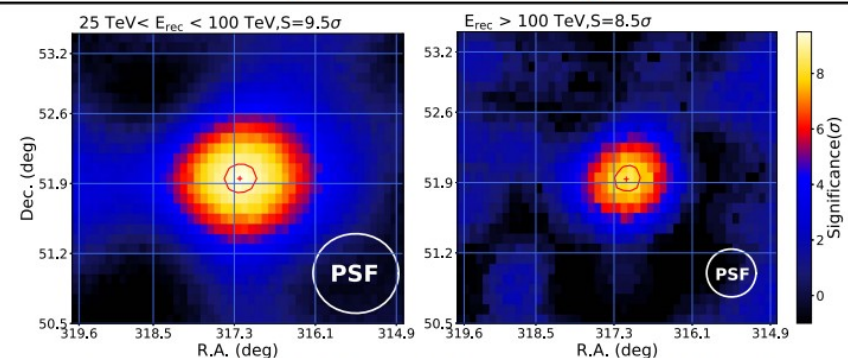
Zhen Cao<sup>1,2,3</sup>, F. Aharonian<sup>4,5</sup>, Q. An<sup>6,7</sup>, Axikegu<sup>8</sup>, L. X. Bai<sup>9</sup>, Y. X. Bai<sup>1,3</sup>, Y. W. Bao<sup>10</sup>, D. Bastieri<sup>11</sup>, X. J. Bi<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Y. J. Bi<sup>1,3</sup>, H. Cai<sup>12</sup>, J. T. Cai<sup>11</sup>, Zhe Cao<sup>6,7</sup>, J. Chang<sup>13</sup>, J. F. Chang<sup>1,3,6</sup>, B. M. Chen<sup>14</sup>, E. S. Chen<sup>1,2,3</sup>, J. Chen<sup>9</sup>, ...

19th Rencontres du Vietnam; TMEX 2023

Dr. Eduardo de la Fuente Acosta (CUCEI-UdeG)

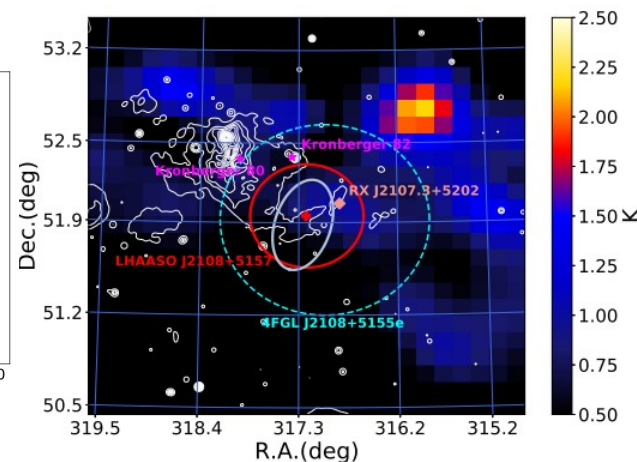
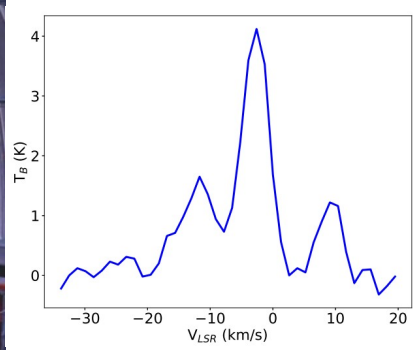
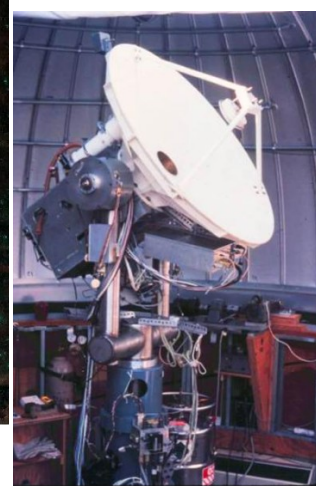


Parameter	10 GeV–1 TeV	1 GeV–1 TeV	Unit
R.A.	317.33 ± 0.18	317.01 ± 0.02	deg
Decl.	51.82 ± 0.15	51.92 ± 0.02	deg
Extension ( $\sigma$ )	0.50 <sup>+0.10</sup> <sub>-0.09</sub>	0.48 <sup>+0.06</sup> <sub>-0.06</sub>	deg
Flux	1.73 ± 0.40	49.1 ± 3.6	$\times 10^{-10}$ ph cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
Index	2.05 ± 0.24	2.34 ± 0.08	
TS	25.3	318.0	
TS <sub>cut</sub>	15.5	63.8	



$n(H_2) = 30 \text{ cm}^{-3}$   
 @3 Kpc

Figure 1. Left: significance map around LHAASO J2108+5157 as observed by KM2A for reconstructed energies from 25 to 100 TeV. Right: significance map for energies above 100 TeV. The red plus sign and circle denote the best-fit position and 95% position uncertainty of the LHAASO source. The white circle in the bottom right corner shows the size of the PSF (containing 68% of the events).



12CO(1–0) line survey integrated over a velocity interval between -14.3 and -9.1 km/seg

The 1.2 Meter Millimeter-Wave Telescope (MWT) at the CfA Harvard & Smithsonian

Dame 2001, ApJ, 547, 792

# The PeVatron Candidate LHAASO J2108+5157 (II)

## PeVatrons as challenge in 21st century astronomy

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Astronomy  
& Astrophysics

### Multiwavelength study of the galactic PeVatron candidate LHAASO J2108+5157

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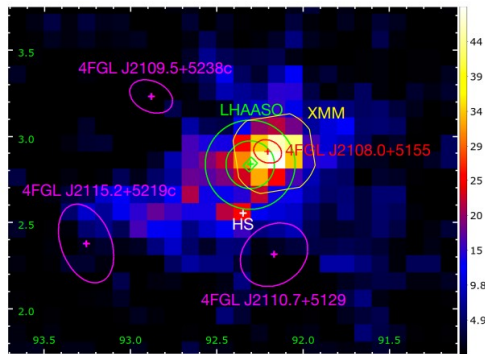


Fig. 3. *Fermi*-LAT TS map in Galactic coordinate above 2 GeV, which shows the sources present in the 4FGL-DR3 catalog with their 95% positional errors (magenta and red ellipses). The small green rectangle



The 1.85m mm/sub-mm telescope (Osaka Prefecture University). <sup>12</sup>CO, <sup>13</sup>CO, and C<sup>18</sup>O (J = 2-1); 230 GHz; 3 arcmin; -100 to 80 kms<sup>-1</sup> rms ~0.3K at a 0.3 kms<sup>-1</sup>.

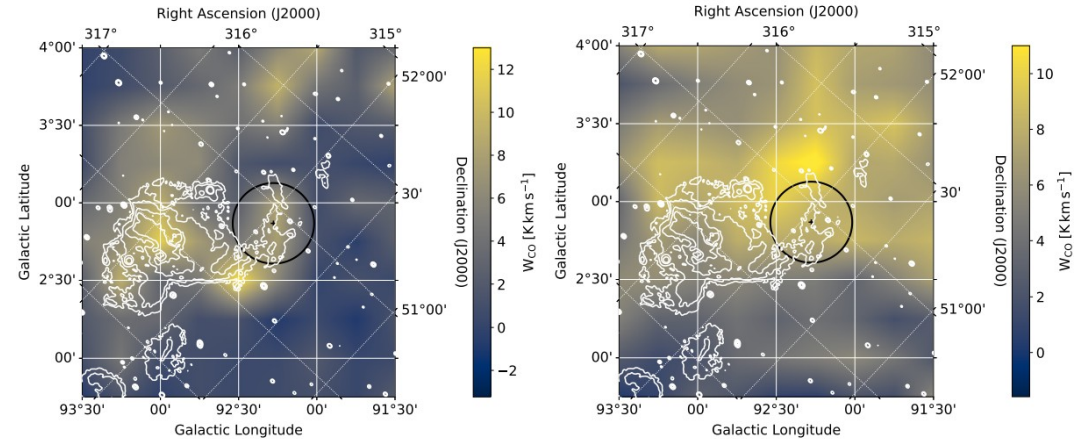
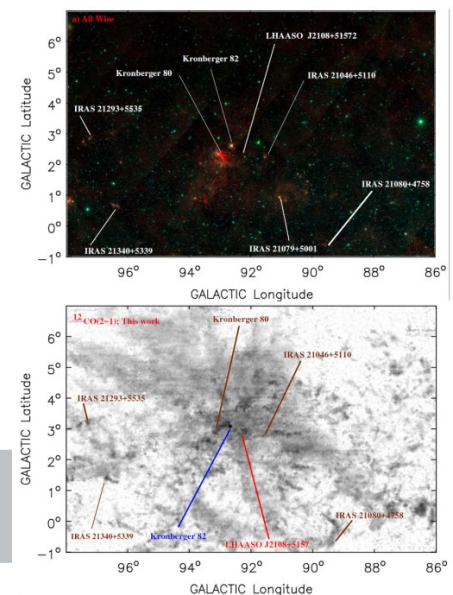
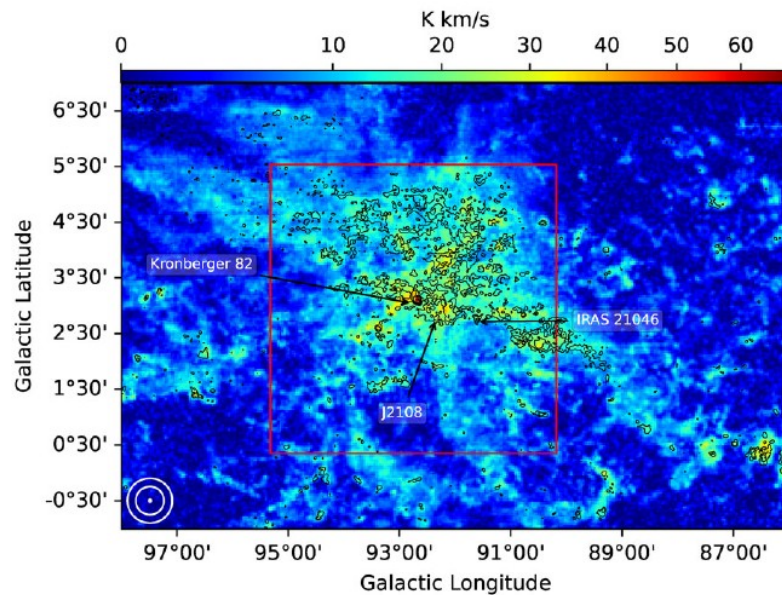


Fig. 6. Velocity-integrated <sup>12</sup>CO intensity ( $W_{CO}$ ) of two molecular clouds spatially coincident with the direction of LHAASO J2108+5157. Left: Integrated velocity of the first Gaussian component peaking at  $v_1 \approx -11.8 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , with corresponding distance of  $d_1 \approx 3.1 \text{ kpc}$ . Right: Integral of the second Gaussian component at  $v_2 \approx -2.7 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  and  $d_1 \approx 2.0 \text{ kpc}$ . The white contour represents 1420 MHz continuum emission from the Canadian Galactic Plane Survey (Taylor et al. 2003). The position of LHAASO J2108+5157 is marked with a black cross, and 95% UL on its extension (0.26°) is indicated with a black circle (Cao et al. 2021a). Bilinear interpolation is used to smooth out the contributions from individual pixels.





## Detection of a new molecular cloud in the LHAASO J2108+5157 region supporting a hadronic PeVatron scenario<sup>†</sup>

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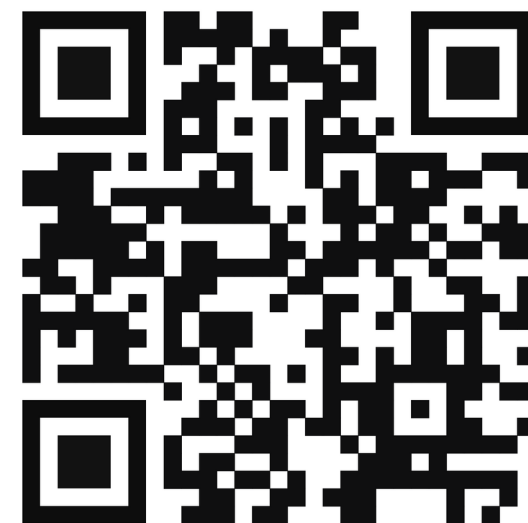
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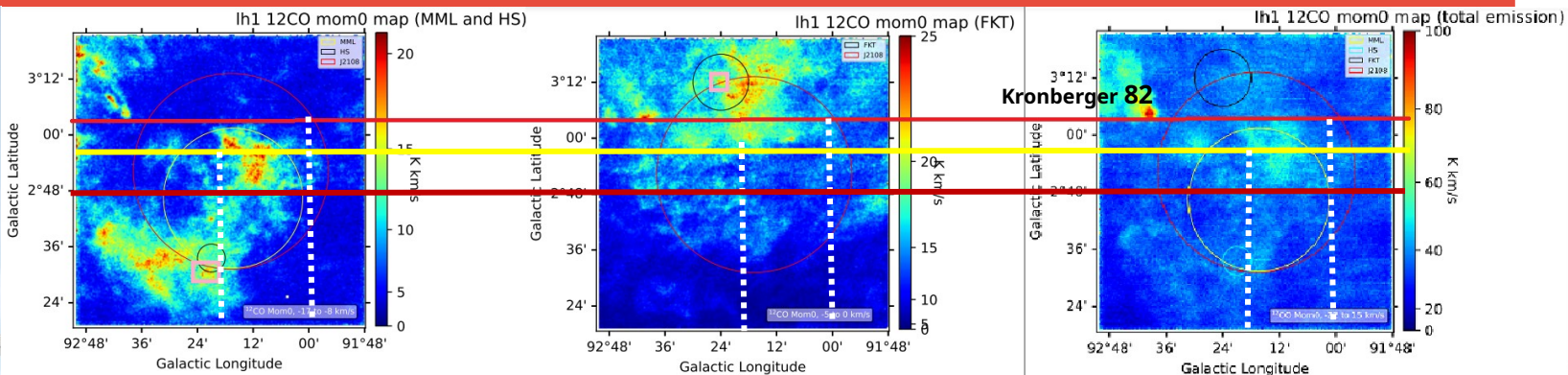
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**Publ. Astron.  
Soc. Japan  
(2023) 75 (3),  
546–566**

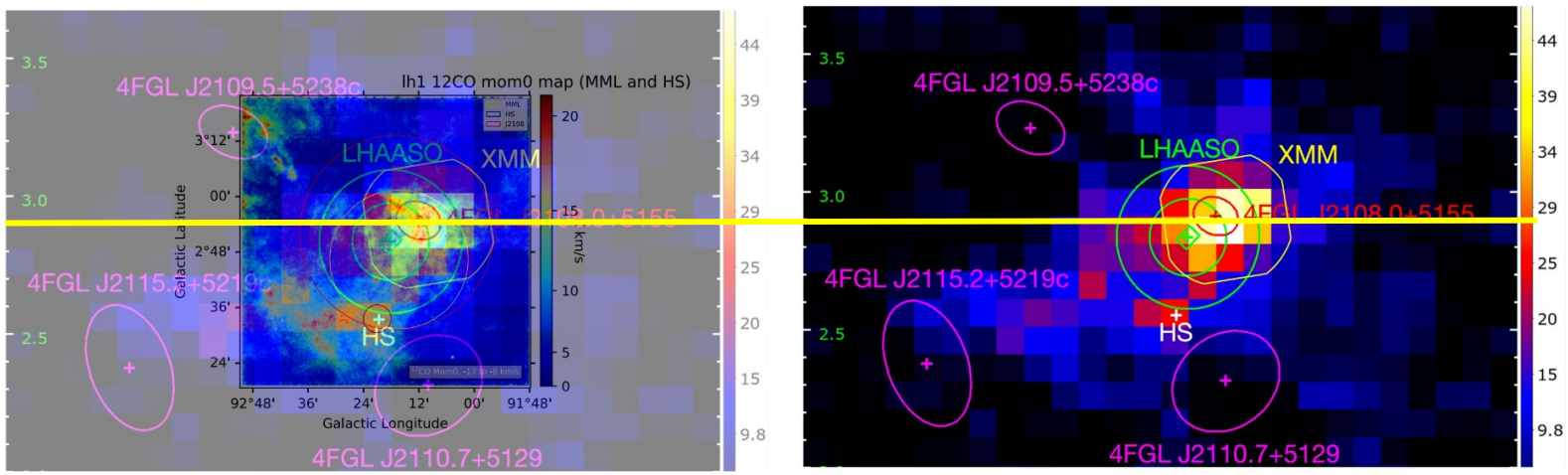


# The PeVatron Candidate LHAASO J2108+5157 (III)

## PeVatrons as challenge in 21st century astronomy



Nobeyama 45 m radio-telescope  
 12,13CO(1-0), C18O (1-0)  
 OPTICALLY THIN GAS



**FKT (PASJ) and FTK (A&AL) SAME CLOUD!?**

Ongoing work.....





LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Evidence for a gamma-ray molecular target in the enigmatic PeVatron candidate LHAASO J2108+5157<sup>★</sup>

E. de la Fuente<sup>1,2</sup>, **I. Toledano-Juárez<sup>3</sup>**, K. Kawata<sup>2</sup>, M. A. Trinidad<sup>4,5</sup>, M. Yamagishi<sup>6</sup>, S. Takekawa<sup>7</sup>, D. Tafoya<sup>8</sup>, M. Ohnishi<sup>2</sup>, A. Nishimura<sup>9</sup>, S. Kato<sup>2</sup>, T. Sako<sup>2</sup>, M. Takita<sup>2</sup>, H. Sano<sup>10</sup>, and R. K. Yadav<sup>11</sup>

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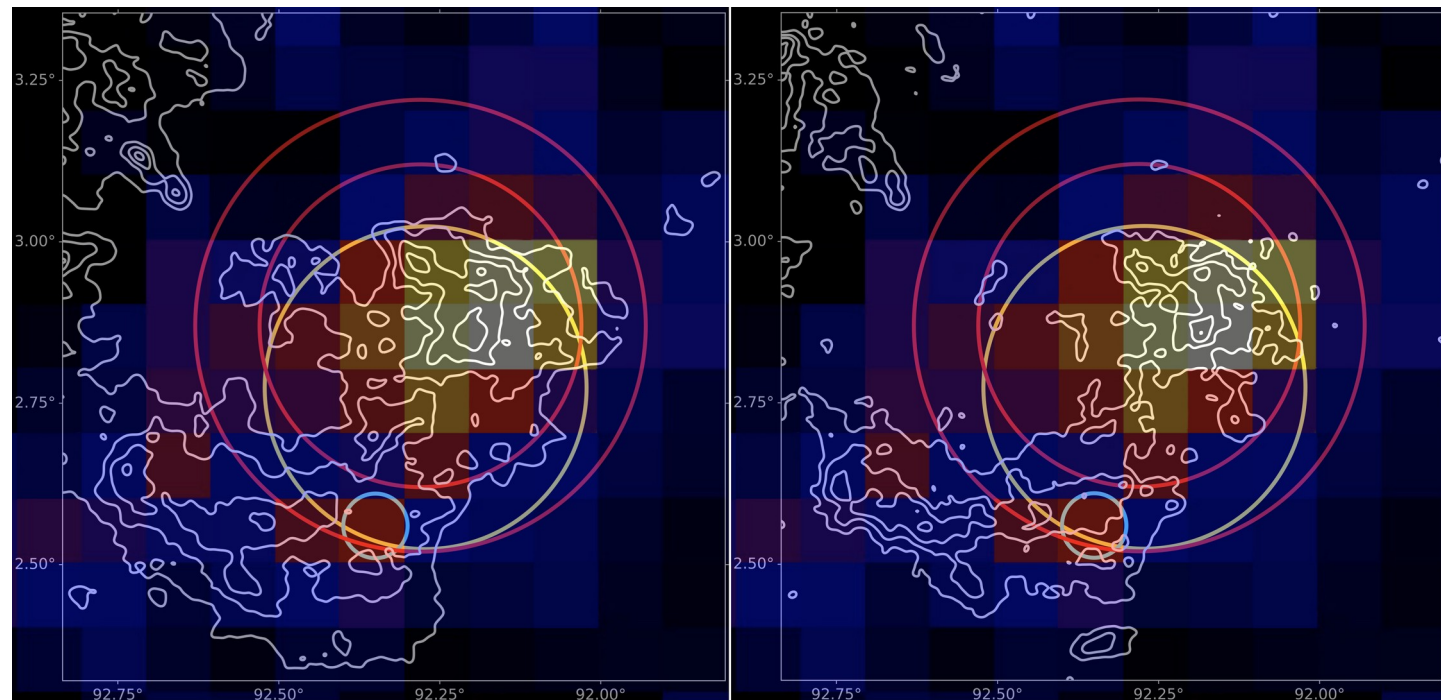
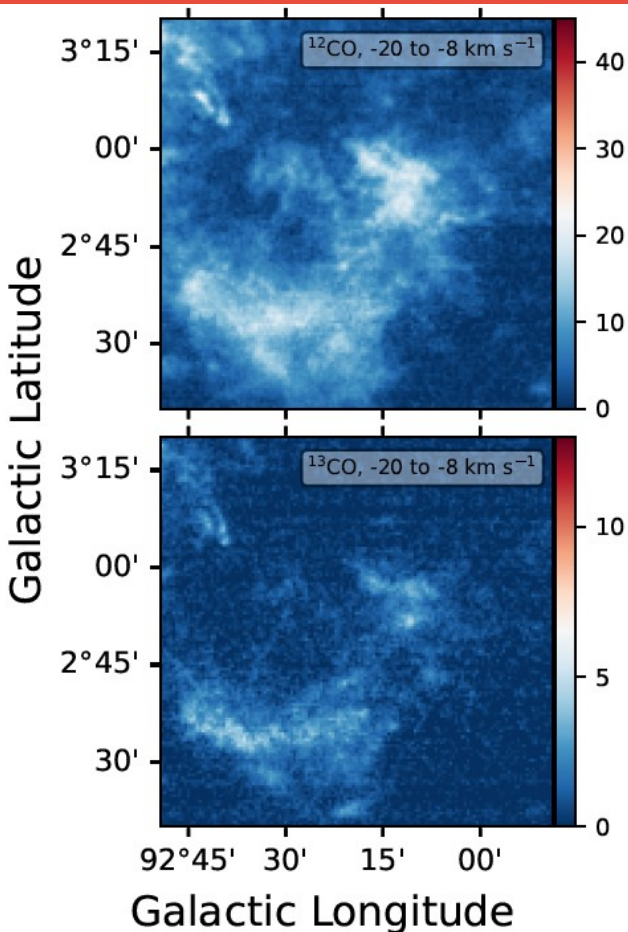
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# The PeVatron Candidate LHASSO J2108+5157 (II)

## PeVatrons as challenge in 21st century astronomy

Ivan Toledano-Juarez, Ph. D. Thesis, CUCEI, Universidad of Guadalajara.



**Table 4.** Parameters and results of the hadronic model of Naima for the FTK molecular cloud

Distance [kpc]	$N(H)^a$ [ $10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ]	$n(H)^a$ [ $\text{cm}^{-3}$ ]	Size [degree]	$W_p$ [ $10^{46} \text{ erg}$ ]	Cutoff [TeV]
$1.6 \pm 0.1$	$6.2 \pm 2.1$	$133 \pm 45$	$0.55 \pm 0.02$	$4.3^{+2.0}_{-1.1}$	$700^{+400}_{-300}$

<sup>a</sup> The column and number density of nucleons is calculated as  $N(H) = 2N(H_2) + N(HI)$  and  $n(H) = 2n(H_2) + n(HI)$ , respectively.

Optically THIN Gas!!!  
Tau = 0.2 in average



# The PeVatron Candidate LHASSO J2108+5157; maybe the most enigmatic on PeVatrons in northern hemisphere; what about the southern sky?

Through the successful investigation of PeVatrons in the Northern Hemisphere, such as LHASSO J2108+5157, perhaps the most enigmatic PeVatron in the Northern Hemisphere, supported by the Nobeyama 45m radio telescope and the OPU 1.8m radio telescope, we can study PeVatrons in the Southern Hemisphere in a similar way by combining Alpaca, radio (hadronic nature emission) and X-ray (leptonic nature emission) observations to contribute to the understanding of the physical mechanism and/or gamma-ray nature emission in PeVatrons.

Alpaca is under construction, Alpaquita, the prototype is taking data

# THANK YOU!