Galactic Sources of VHE Gamma-Ray Emission: Highlights from IACTs

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The Three Major IACTs



Viewing Cosmic Particle Acceleration from ~ tens of GeV to ~30 TeV



H.E.S.S. MAGIC VERITAS

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Gamma Rays as Tracers of Cosmic Rays

- What are the sources of the highest energy cosmic rays?
- Are there "PeVatrons" in our Galaxy → young supernova remnants that can accelerate particles up to PeV (~10¹⁵ eV) energies?
- Is there yet a robust evidence of acceleration of nucleonic component of cosmic rays in supernova remnants?
- What is the maximum particle energy
 → acceleration efficiency?
- What is the nature of the supernova progenitor and the magnetic field environment?



Galactic Plane Survey, 0.2 – 100 TeV

H.E.S.S. SUIVEY See Chavez, TeVPA 2015

The deepest and most comprehensive, high resolution (~ 0.1°) and sensitive (<2% Crab Nebula) survey of the Milky Way in very-high-energy γ-rays.



- Large catalog (~100) of
 Galactic sources
 →opportunity to carry out particle acceleration studies.
- Different classes of Galactic sources.
- Population studies are now starting to become possible.

de Naurois, ICRC 2015

Rich Variety of Galactic Science at > 100 GeV

- Supernova remnants/PWNe/Supernova products
 - Non-thermal shells.
 - Shell-molecular cloud interactions.
 - $_{\odot}$ TeV PWNe associated with high E_{dot}/d^2 pulsars.
- Gamma-ray pulsars
- TeV observations of binaries
 - Binaries are the only variable Galactic TeV sources.
 - Jets or colliding winds? TeV emission probes the highest energy particles accelerated.
- Unidentified Galactic sources
 - TeV unidentified sources from Galactic plane surveys.
 - o Fermi unidentified sources & transients in the Galactic plane.
- Synergistic Studies with Fermi-LAT & HAWC
 - o Unprecedented opportunities for spectral studies in the 100 MeV 100 TeV.



Rich Variety of Galactic Science at > 100 GeV

However,

this talk will focus on only a few topics**

(not a comprehensive review)

** Handful of highlights

*** See for e.g. de Naurois ICRC 2015 for a recent review

IACTs in Context



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IACTs in Context



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Sources of Cosmic rays: SNRs

Power Source: Supernova Remnants



• Supernova shocks accelerate e⁻ and protons.

• Relative efficiency of e⁻ vs p acceleration not well-understood. What are the maximum energies obtained?

Gamma-ray production by IC scattering or π^0 decays from inelastic interactions of protons with ambient gas.

Cosmic rays?



Fermi-LAT SED cutoff around 200 MeV, "pion bump," is direct indication of hadronic interactions.

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TeVPA, Kashiwa 2015

Sources of Cosmic rays: SNRs (Shells)



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SNR RX J1713.7-3946: First shell-type resolved in TeV

- Spatially resolved spectra with unprecedented resolution (<0.05°)
- TeV shell morphology close correlation with Xrays
- Dominant emission likely to be leptonic?
- Difference in X-ray/γ radial profiles: Particle escape and/or B field geometry





SNR RX J1713.7-3946: First shell-type resolved in TeV



TeV spectrum extends to ~100 TeV. Purely leptonic model with singlepopulation of electrons not good explanation for Fermi-LAT + HESS spectrum

Particle Energy Distributions 10⁴⁹ preliminary 10⁴⁸ Proton spectrum assuming $n_{\rm H} = 1 \, \rm cm^{-3}$ $\dot{W_{\rm p}}(E_{\rm p}>1\,{
m TeV})$ = (6.27 \pm 0.14) imes 10⁴⁹ erg $\left[rac{n_{
m H}}{1\,{
m cm}^{-3}}
ight]$ E_{2}^{47} E⁴ E⁷ E⁷ E⁴ ഗ ഗ Electron spectrum ш 10⁴⁵ $W_{\rm e}(E_{\rm e}>1\,{
m TeV}) = (1.12\pm0.04) imes10^{47}~{
m erg}$ 1044 10⁴³ 10¹² 10¹³ 10¹⁴ 10 10¹¹ Particle Energy (eV)

Models require break in in electron spectrum @ 2.5 EV If Synchrotron cooling, required B-field: ~140 μ G \rightarrow at odds with X-ray measurement (B = 14.8 ± 0.2 μ G) Additional target photon field? \rightarrow required energy density: 140 eV cm⁻³ \rightarrow 10² times larger than in all previous estimates

H.E.S.S., V. Zabala ICRC 2015

Mapping the Magnetic Field



IC 443: Jellyfish Nebula



- Distance ~ 1.5 kpc. Age ~ 30,000yr. Distinct shell in radio, optical.
- Shell interacting with molecular cloud
 potential target material.
- PWN at southern edge of shell.
- Maser emission suggests SNR shock interacting with cloud.



- Discovery in TeV by MAGIC, followed by VERITAS (2007).
- Fermi Observations, 5-50 GeV.
- Fermi location consistent with VERITAS – Angular Extent ~ 0.27°.
- Compelling reasons to search for TeV emission from IC 443: γ s from cosmic rays, or from the PWN?

Resolving the Jellyfish Nebula in TeV y-rays





- Strong spatial correlation of γ-ray emission with masers and molecular gas.
- The centroid of the emission corresponds to the densest part of the MC.
- TeV emission fills the northeast lobe and SNR/MC interaction regions.
- Strongest where maser emission brightest.
- Entire shell appears to be accelerating particles.

Resolving the Jellyfish Nebula (IC 443) in TeV γ -rays



Humensky et al. ICRC 2015

- GeV/TeV emission show remarkable spatial correlation
- Anti-correlation with thermal X-rays
- Spectra from different regions within the remnant will help to probe the environmental dependence of cosmic-ray diffusion.

Single population of CR interacting with swept up / shocked gas?

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Tycho: Well-Studied SNR





- Age : ~ 440 yr
- Distance of 2-5 kpc
- Type Ia SNR, exploded in a relatively clean environment
- Nearby MC in NE side?

- X-ray shows detailed non-thermal emitting features, manifesting the shock fronts
- Hard X-ray emission up to 40 keV
- Bright X-ray rims and filaments likely evidence for electrons up to ~100 TeV

Tycho: Well-Studied SNR



- Hard X-ray emission (NuStar) up to 40 keV
- Evidence of magnetic turbulence
- Bright X-ray rims and filaments likely evidence for electrons up to ~100 TeV

What is the maximum energy of particles accelerated in Tycho?

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TeVPA, Kashiwa 2015

Tycho: Hadronic Accelerator?



Softness of γ -ray emissions for energies higher than 400 GeV produced tension with all of the models

CO cloud / X-ray (Chandra, E>4.1 keV) / X-ray (NuSTAR, 20 keV<E<40 keV)/Red (Fermi, 95% C.L. centroid)

- Possible interaction with Molecular Cloud
- Detection in GeV-TeV energy by Fermi & VERITAS
- Spectrum favors hadronic models

Supernova Remnants: Cas A



- Young (330 yr), shell-type SNR. D ~ 3.4 kpc.
- Radio sub mm IR to X-ray emission is synch.
- Morphology of non-thermal X-ray emission is dominated by faint, well-defined filaments and knots, which are sites of CR acceleration.
- First detected in TeV by HEGRA (Aharonian et al. 2001)
- MAGIC & VERITAS detections in TeV (~ 3.5% Crab)
- Fermi detection: Point source. No pulsations from CCO.

Fermi spectrum favors scenario in which the GeV γ rays are emitted in the shell of the SNR.
Hadronic model is favored, but leptons not ruled out.



Deep exposures of Cas A: Radiation Models





- Hadronic model is preferred at lower energy (Yuan et al. 2013)
- At higher energy both leptonic and hadronic mechanisms may contribute (Saha et al. 2013)

Deep exposures of three northern SNRs

- New, precise spectra of young and interacting SNRs will Investigate the mechanisms of cosmicray acceleration.
- Probe the distribution of energetic particles in the acceleration region
- Study the importance of SNR type, age, target material, magnetic fields, progenitor



VERITAS: 150 hours of exposure for IC443

Humensky, Park, Kumar, ICRC 2015

H.E.S.S. SNRs discovered in GPS



- HESS J1534-571: No X-ray emission is found from the source region, excluding non-thermal X-ray emission at the level detected from the other known TeV SNR. Excellent candidate for proton-dominated processes.
- HESS J1912+101: New data shows shell-like morphology, first TeV-only shell candidate

Pulsed Radiation at TeV

The Crab Pulsar at TeV Energies

- Search for pulsed emission in VHE since EGRET detection of pulsed emission
- Dedicated observations by MAGIC & VERITAS





- First detection of emission above 25 GeV from a pulsar by MAGIC (2008, Science)
- Detection of pulsed emission in the 120-400 GeV by VERITAS (2011, Science)
- Spectrum between 25-500 GeV by MAGIC Bridge emission detected >50 GeV by MAGIC

The Crab Pulsar at TeV Energies

 Pulsed emission in the 120-400 GeV range not expected theoretically – challenge to pulsar models.



MAGIC, de Oña Wilhelmi, ICRC 2015



PSRB0531+21 Phaseogram with energies > 400 GeV



VERITAS, Nguyen, ICRC 2015

The Crab Pulsar Spectrum at TeV Energies

- Challenges emission models: Curvature radiation unlikely to be responsible for pulsed VHE emission.
 - Emission from the neighborhood of Light Cylinder (r ~1600km).
- MAGIC measures spectrum for pulsar > 1.2 TeV
- Fermi-TeV fits show IC emission from ~ 10 GeV to > 1 TeV.
- TeV pulsations may be used to put quadratic limits for LIV.



Vela Pulsar (Second VHE Pulsar)

Calibration source for H.E.S.S at the threshold in standard observation mode



Gajdus, ICRC 2015

Phase-folded distribution of events of the Vela Pulsar with H.E.S.S.-II and Fermi- LAT

Pulsar Wind Nebulae

dominant population of Galactic VHE sources

The Crab PWN: 50 GeV – 30 TeV

- Crab Nebula is a very effective accelerator but not an effective IC gammaray emitter.
- The Crab has a large spin-down reservoir (~10³⁸ erg s), but γ-ray lum. << spin-down power, because of a large magnetic field.
- In the future, CTA is expected to detect a zoo of PWNe, allowing detailed population studies: less powerful pulsar --> weaker magnetic field --> higher gamma-ray efficiency.



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TeV PWNe

- What is the connection between pulsar winds and TeV emission?
- Are pulsars a source of local leptonic cosmic rays?



- Are all young and high spin-down power (\dot{E} > 10³⁷ erg/s) PWNe high-energy γ -ray emitters? If not, why not?
- Do we understand the evolution of PWNe?

3C 58: MAGIC Detection of the Least Luminous PWN

- Powered by high spin down pulsar PSR J0205+6449, $\dot{E} = 2.7X10^{37} \text{ erg.s}^{-1}$
- ~2 kpc (~2 % of Crab pulsar, similar morphology)

10²

10

10

104

Energy [GeV]

- MAGIC discovered TeV emission in 100h of observations (0.65 % CU)
- Magnetic field drawn from models is far from equipartition and low for a young PWN





10³⁶

10³

d¢/dE [TeV cm² s⁻

ш

10

10

10'14

10

10

10 É [erg/s]

10³⁴

Surveys: PWN population studies

Surveys are good for populations studies

- Statistical behaviour:
 - Most young pulsars associated with PWN
- Some PWN exhibit peculiar characteristics
 - 3C58: very low luminosity (Least luminous TeV PWN) compared to spin-down power
 - (Not efficient accelerator? Weak B Field?)

From de Naurois, ICRC 2015





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TeVPA Kashiwa 2015

Unidentified Sources

Unidentified TeV Sources



-90

~ 50 Unidentified sources in H.E.S.S. GPS

Map made using TeVCat (tevcat.uchicago.edu)

Are most of the unidentified sources relic PWNe produced by yet undetected pulsars? L_{γ} and Γ_{γ} distributions for unidentified sources follow closely those for the TeV PWNe and PWN candidates (Kargaltsev 2013).

The Galactic Center

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TeV View of the Galactic Center



VERITAS: good correlation with radio, 3FGL & HESS

- MAGIC observed the Galactic center under large zenith angle range of 58°-70°
- Observed good correlation between 90cm radio image and TeV sky map
- Radio arc seem to have a TeV counterpart



TeV View of the Galactic Center



Galactic Centre with H.E.S.S.

- Central source: cut-off @ 10 TeV
- Diffuse emission shows no cut-off well > 10 TeV
- Emission likely due to propagation of protons accelerated around central black hole and diffusing away (projected radial distribution matches)
- Parent proton population up to 1 PeV (2.9 PeV @ 68% CL)

Viana ICRC 2015



Summary & Conclusion

What went unsaid



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Summary & Future Prospects

- The field of ground-based γ-ray astronomy is active and vibrant.
- With major improvements in sensitivity, new Galactic discoveries + deep studies of targeted sources.
- The field continues to evolve:
 - Learning new things from complementary experiments (X-ray, HAWC & Fermi-LAT).
- Several open questions remain:
 - Definite proof of acceleration of hadrons
 - Definitive proof of cosmic Pevatrons
- Outlook for Galactic Astrophysics with CTA is extremely promising.



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TeVPA Kashiwa 2015

Extra/Backup slides

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