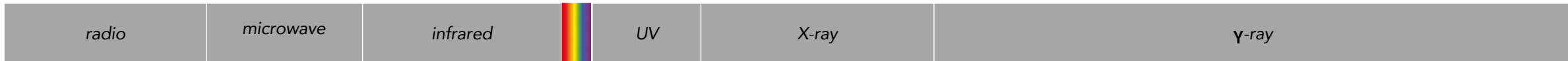


# Gamma-rays

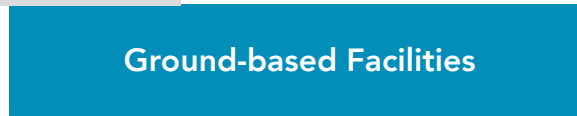
Jim Hinton, Stefan Funk, David Berge

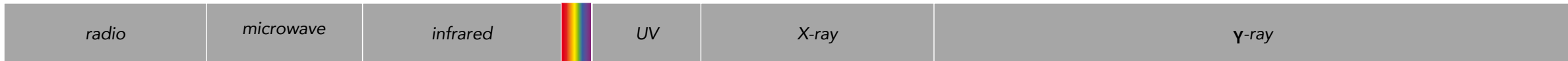


Wavelength (m)



Photon Energy (eV)





Wavelength (m)



Photon Energy (eV)



LE/ME

VHE

UHE

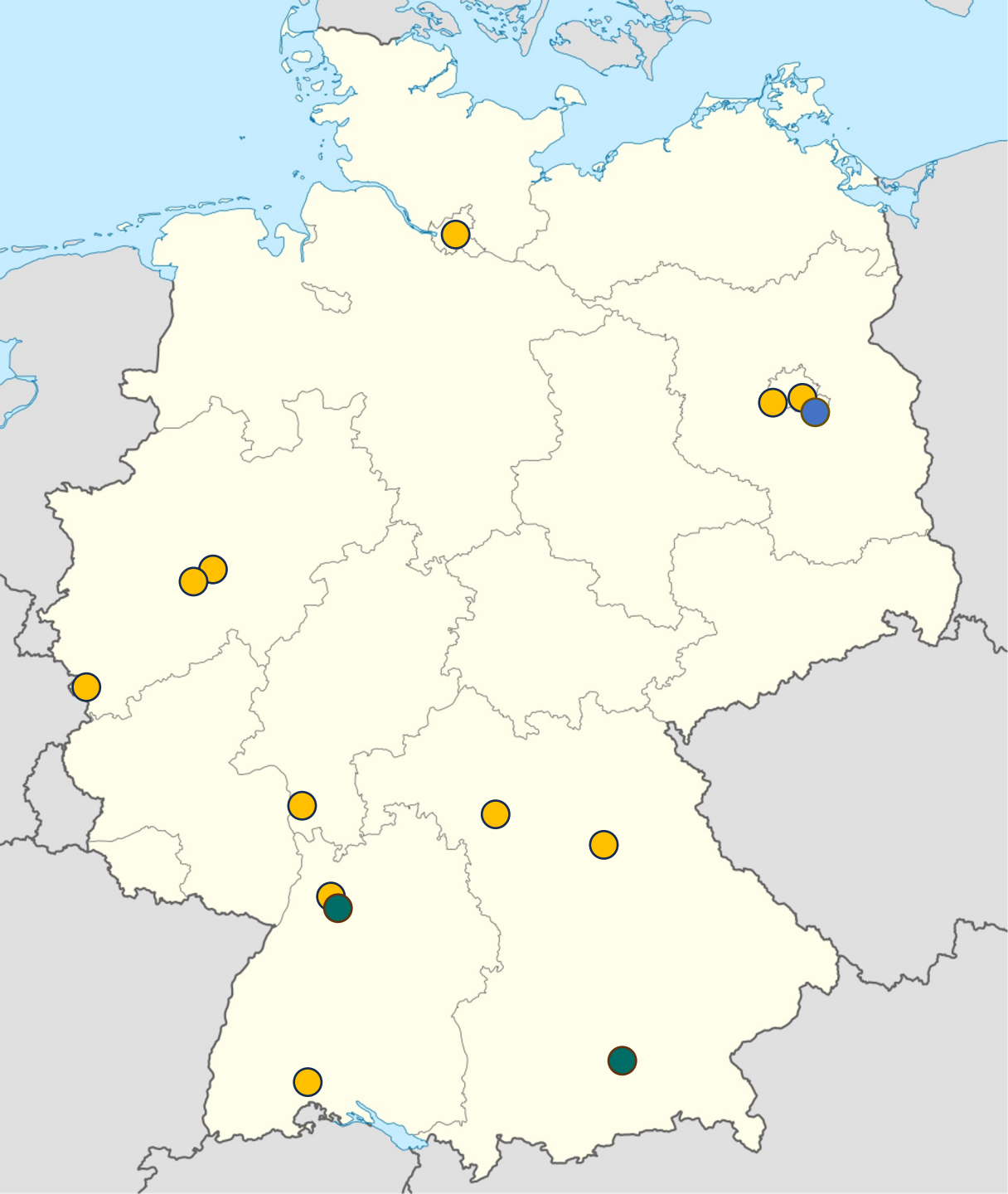
Space-based Facilities

German community developments

Ground-based Facilities

Ground-based Facilities





● Gamma-ray community in Germany

- 11 University Groups
- 2 Max Planck Institutes
  - MPIK & MPP
- 1 Helmholtz Institute
  - DESY (Zeuthen)

● Many institutes involved MeV-PeV

- And strong in theory as well as instrumentation/data

# MeV Gammas

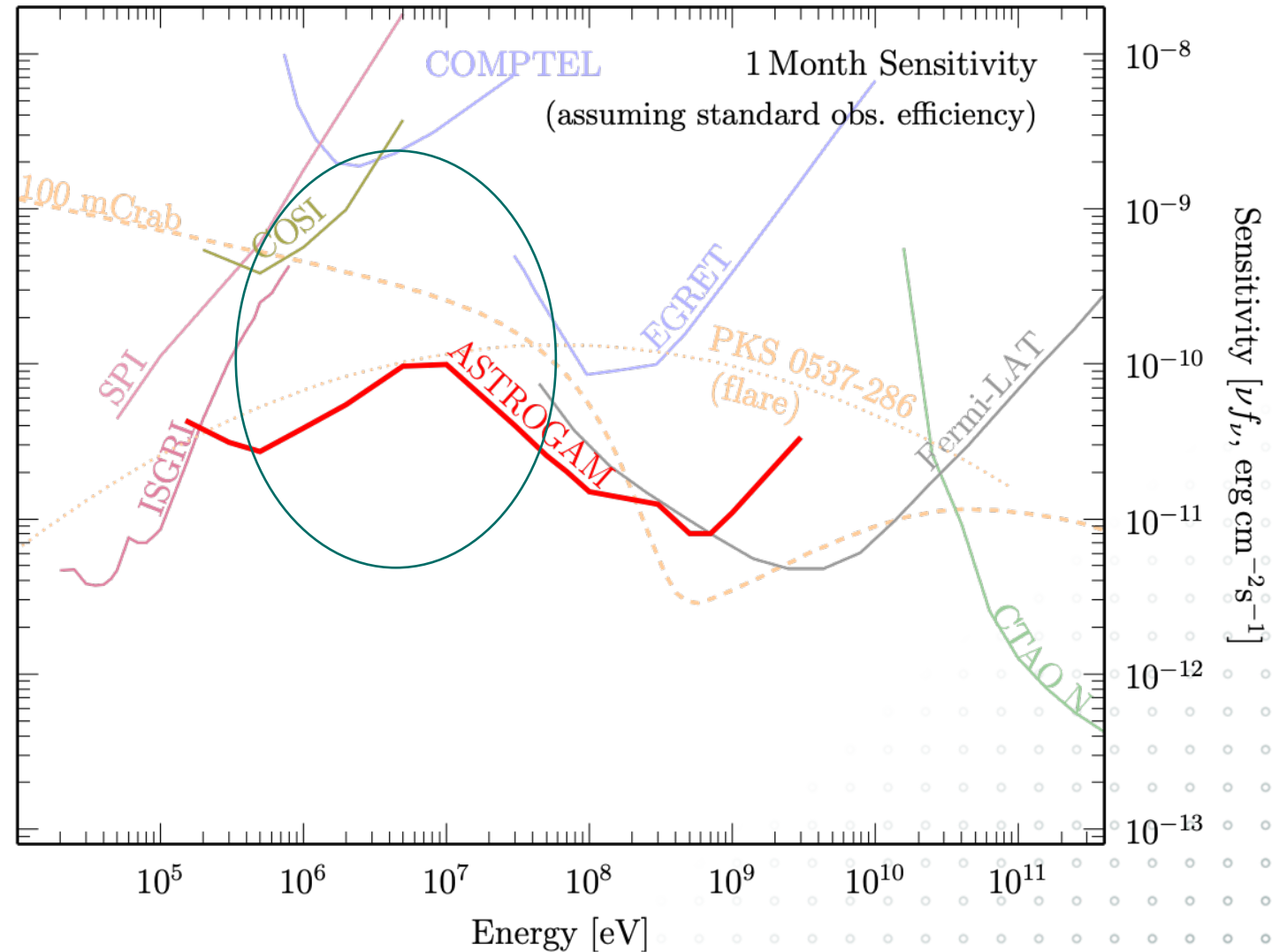
◦ See <https://arxiv.org/abs/2102.02460>

◉ MeV range important for very broad set of scientific topics

- Active galaxies
- Neutrino link
- Nucleosynthesis\*
- Gal + EG particle accelerators

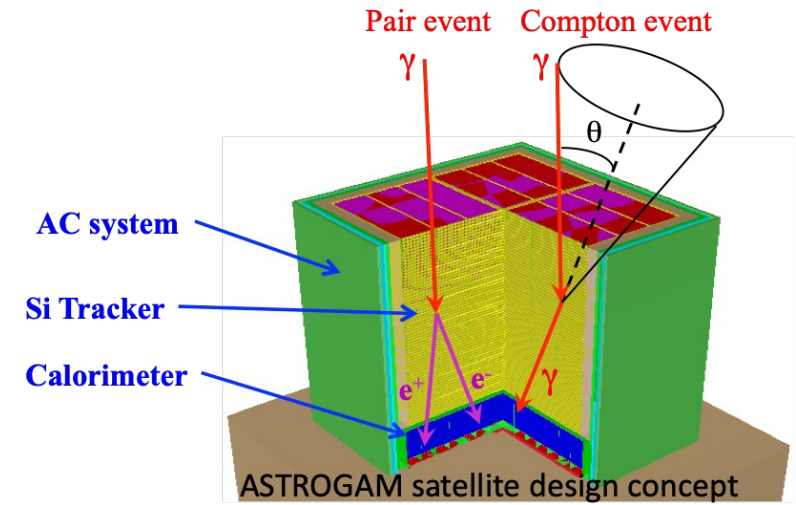
◉ Sensitivity gap!

- ASTROGAM proposal failed in 2022



and Fermi will not last forever – widening the gap for time-variable objects

# MeV Gammas Future?



- DLR support for COSI contributions
  - Mainz, Würzburg; launch 2027, focused Compton mission for 0.2-5 MeV with high E resolution
  - But limited mission time (2 years) and sensitive energy range
- Support needed for R&D towards general purpose MeV instrument
  - ASTROGAM bid in 2022 supported by HU Berlin, RU Bochum, Erlangen, Mainz, Potsdam, Tübingen, Würzburg plus DESY
  - Community is preparing for new bids (ESA+NASA 2025), important that Germany can continue to play a strong role

# Ground-based Gammas

## Scientific Themes

Cosmic Particle Acceleration  
Cosmic Ray Impact

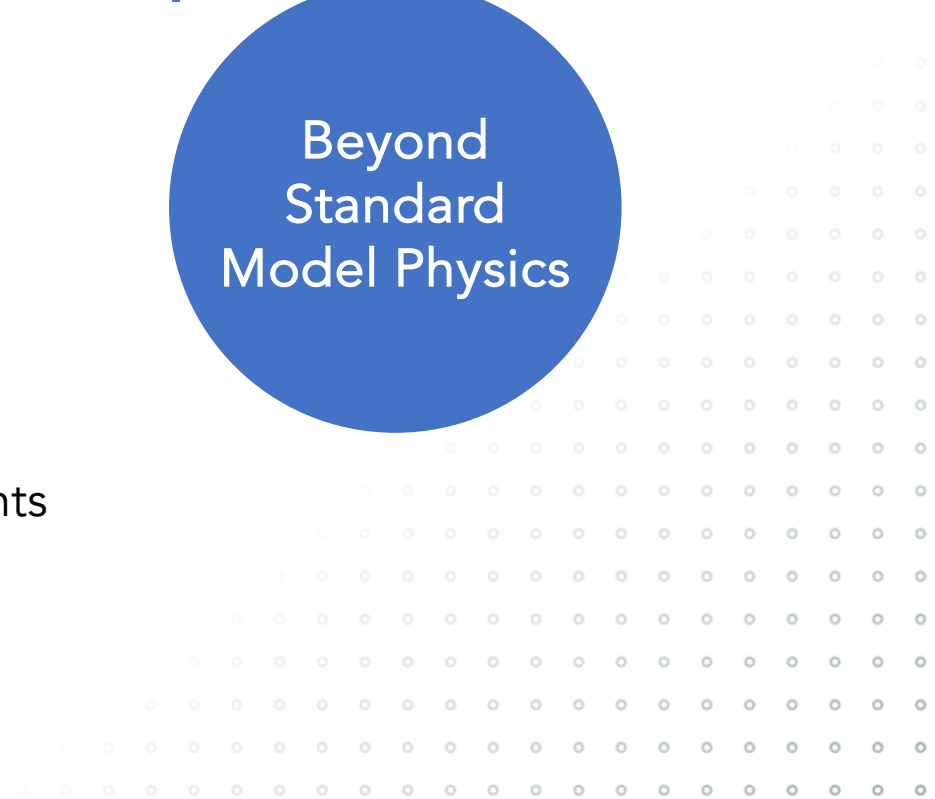
Non-Thermal  
Astrophysics

Multi-  
Messenger  
Astronomy

Gravitational Wave Transients  
The Cosmic Neutrino Sky  
UHE Cosmic Ray Origin

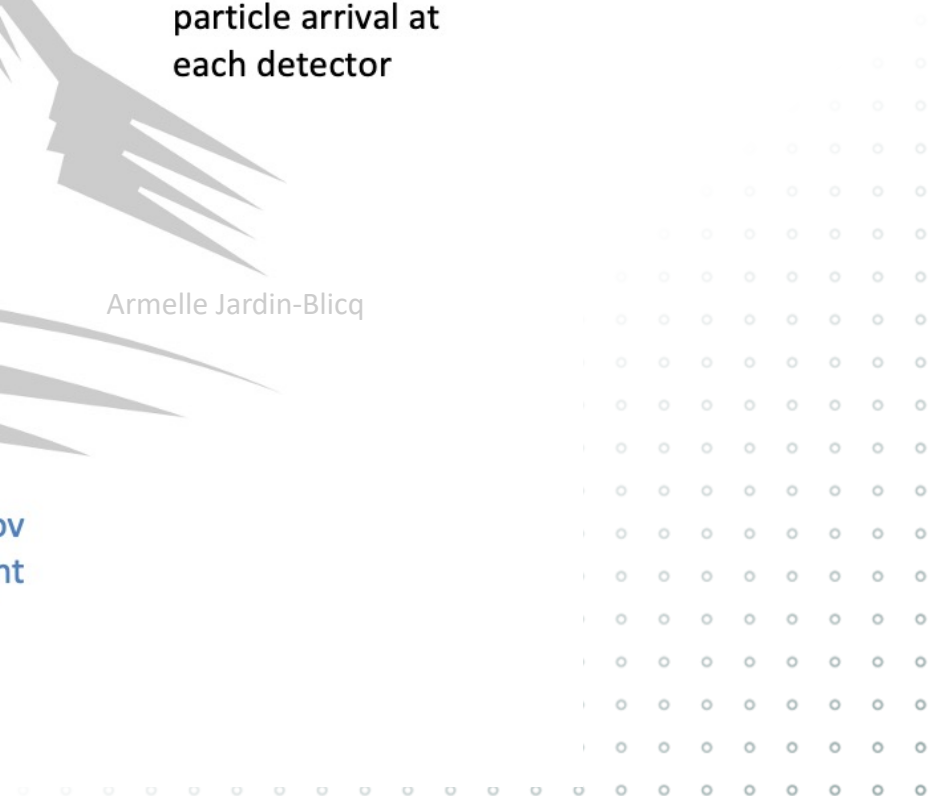
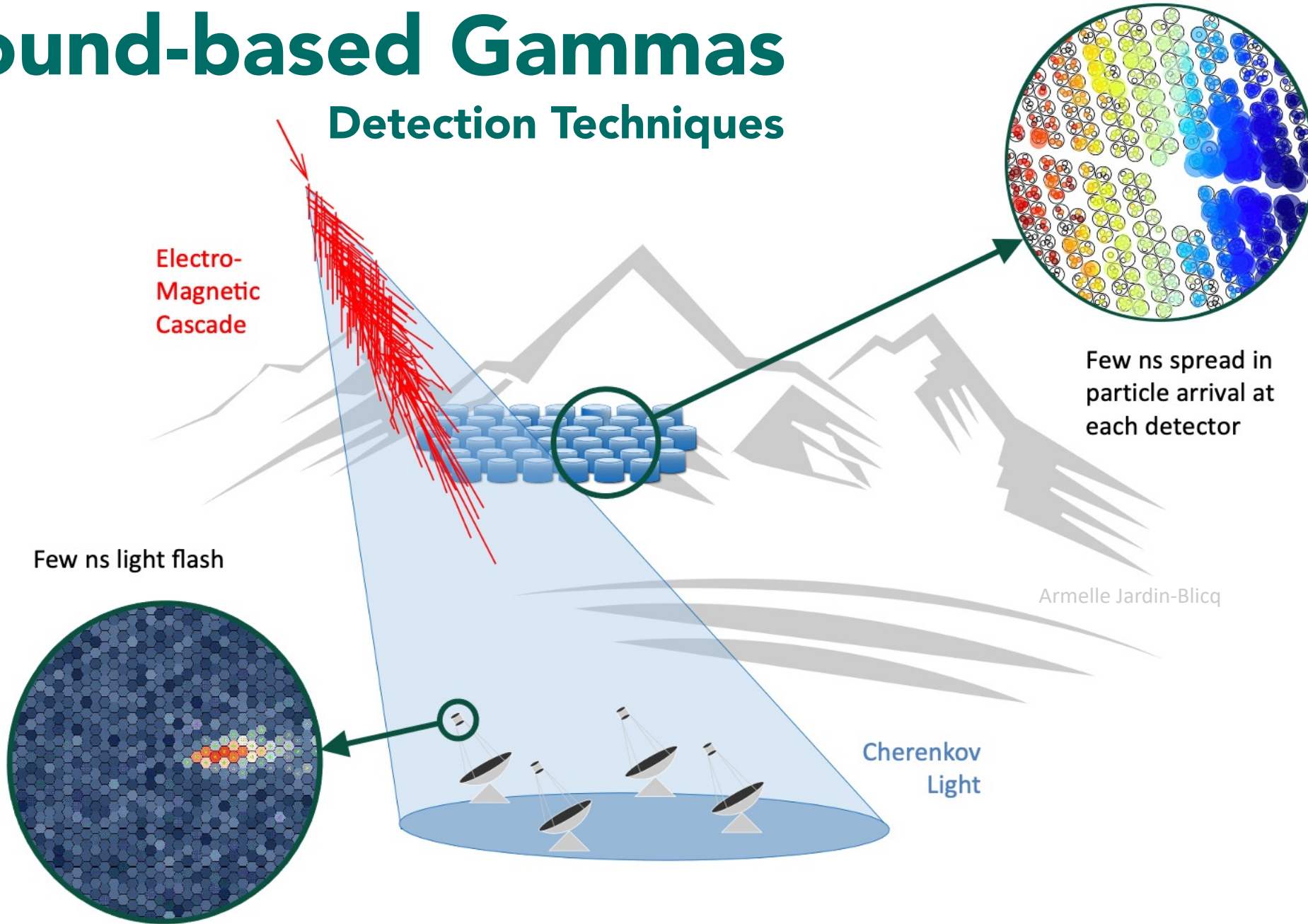
Axion-like Particles  
Lorentz Invariance Violation  
Dark Matter

Beyond  
Standard  
Model Physics



# Ground-based Gammas

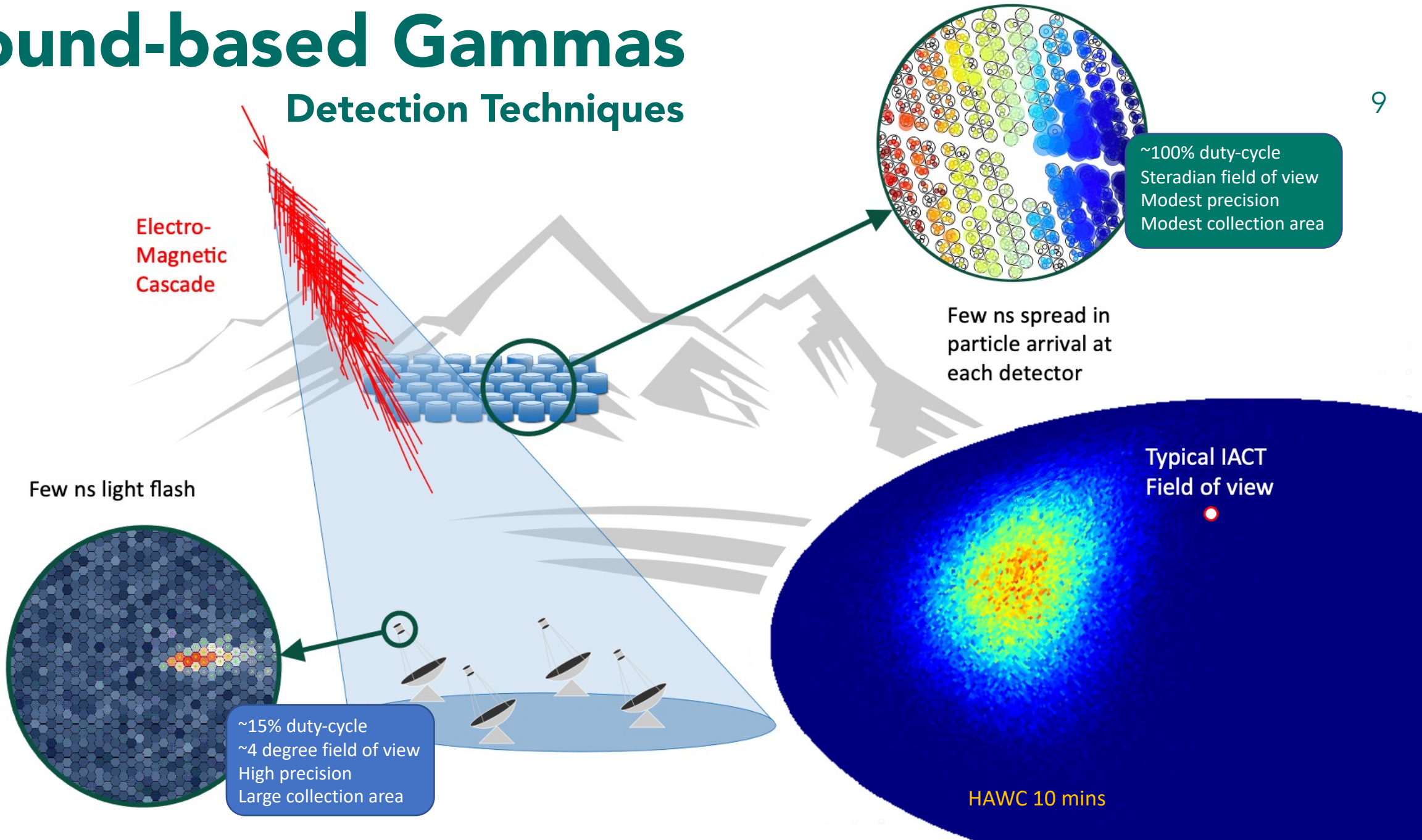
## Detection Techniques





# Ground-based Gammas

## Detection Techniques



Electro-Magnetic Cascade

Few ns light flash

~100% duty-cycle  
Steradian field of view  
Modest precision  
Modest collection area

~15% duty-cycle  
~4 degree field of view  
High precision  
Large collection area

Few ns spread in particle arrival at each detector

Typical IACT Field of view

HAWC 10 mins



VERITAS

HAWC

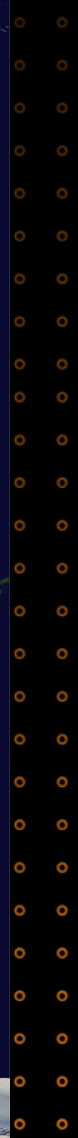
MAGIC

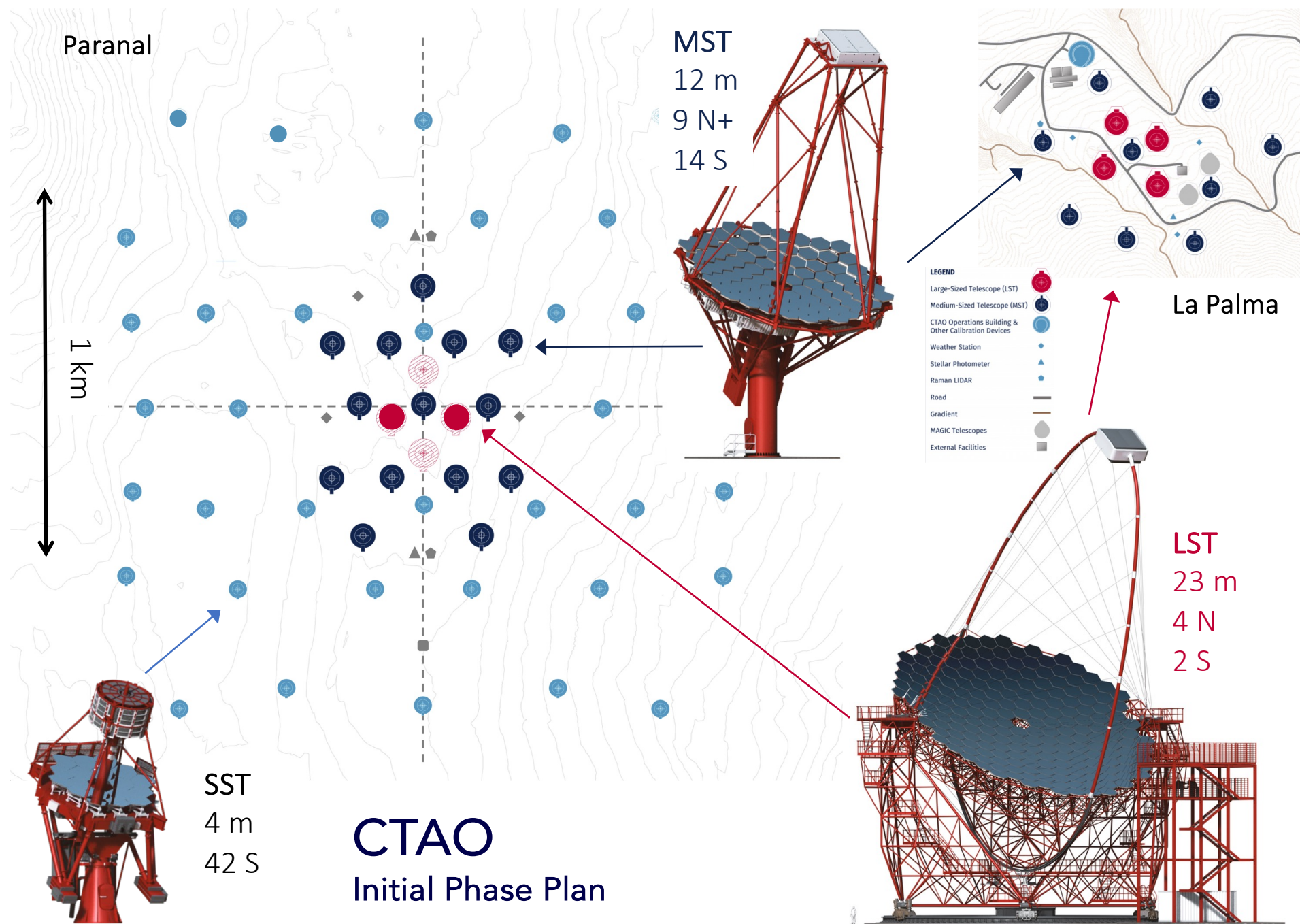
LHAASO

SWGO

CTAO

HESS

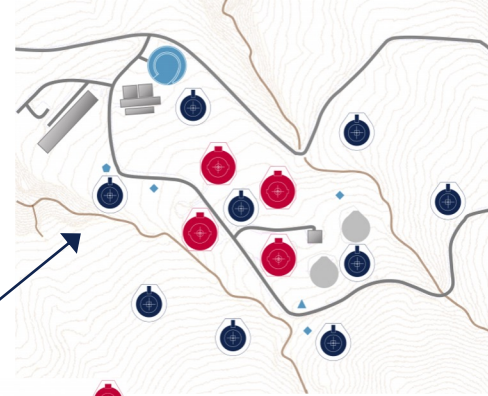




Paranal

1 km

MST  
12 m  
9 N+  
14 S



La Palma

- LEGEND**
- Large-Sized Telescope (LST)
  - Medium-Sized Telescope (MST)
  - CTAO Operations Building & Other Calibration Devices
  - Weather Station
  - Stellar Photometer
  - Raman LIDAR
  - Road
  - Gradient
  - MAGIC Telescopes
  - External Facilities

DE:  
Structures+  
Cameras (S)

LST  
23 m  
4 N  
2 S

DE:  
Cameras

SST  
4 m  
42 S

# CTAO Initial Phase Plan

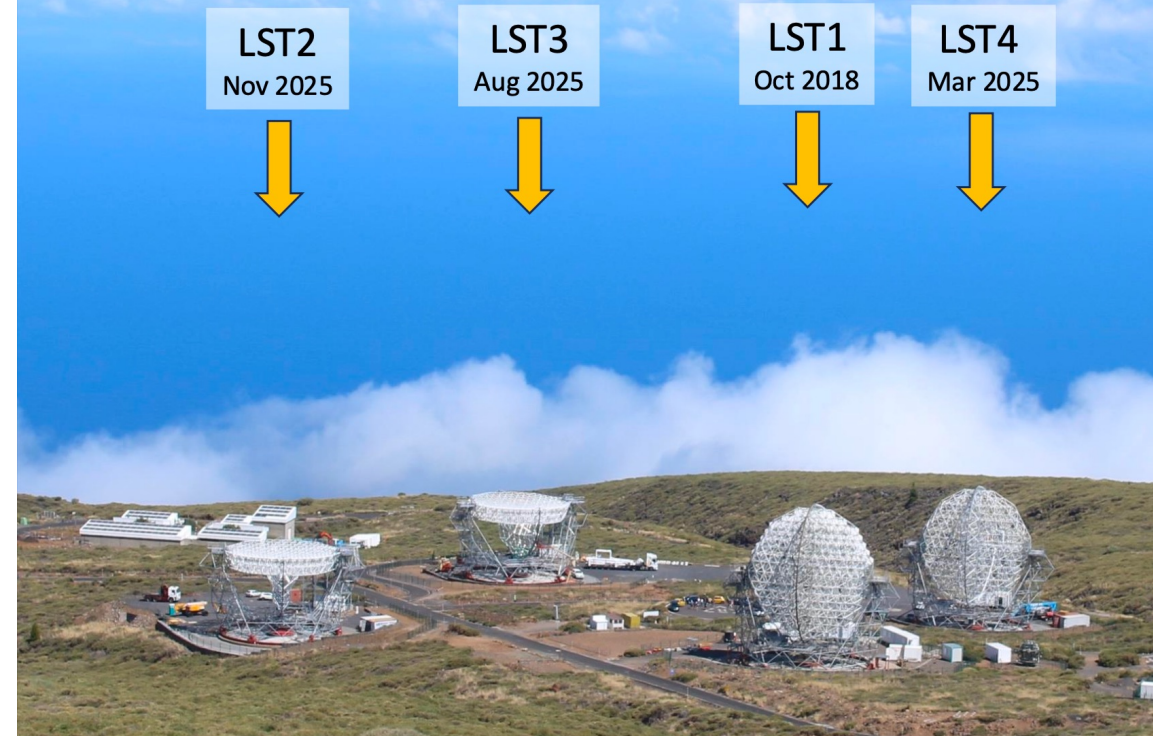
DE:  
Structures+ (N)

# CTAO Status?

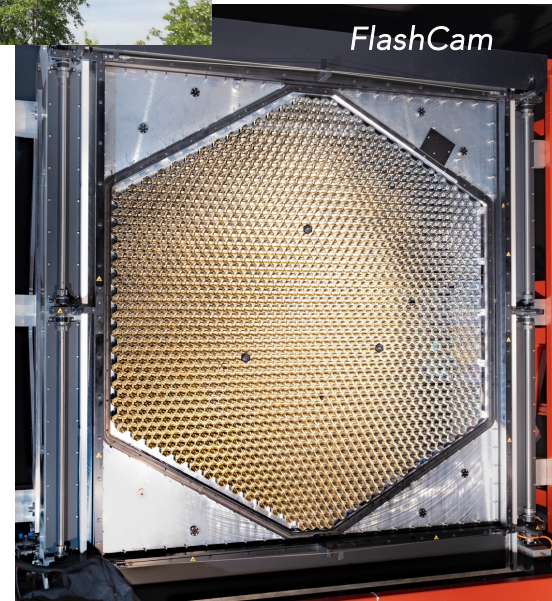
- Rapid progress on all fronts

Everything prototyped and tested

Preparations for first CTA South 'Pathfinders'



ASTRI array as proving ground for CTA SST technologies



Preparations for 'mass production' for Cherenkov Cameras

LST Construction in La Palma



# CTAO Status?



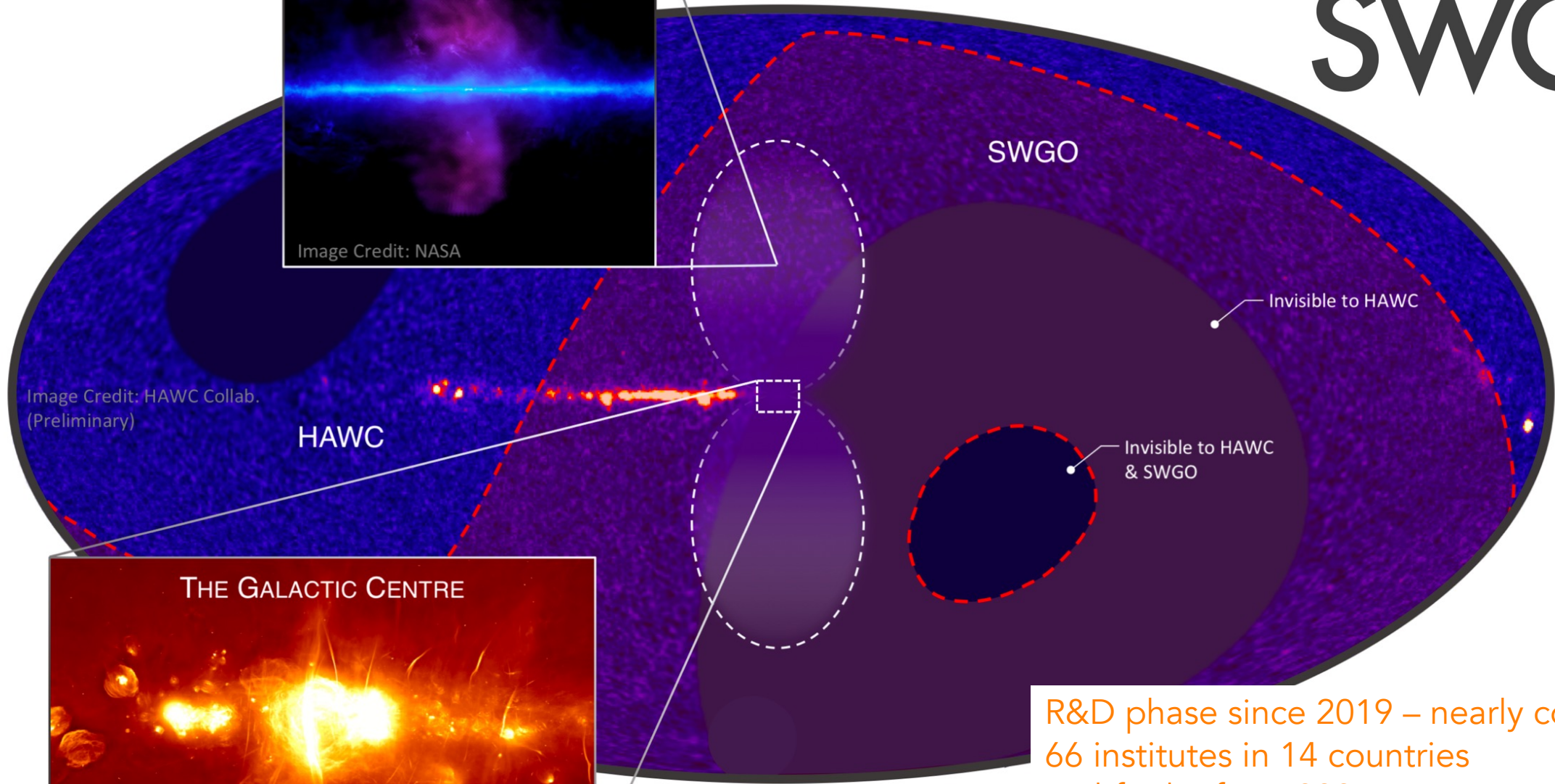
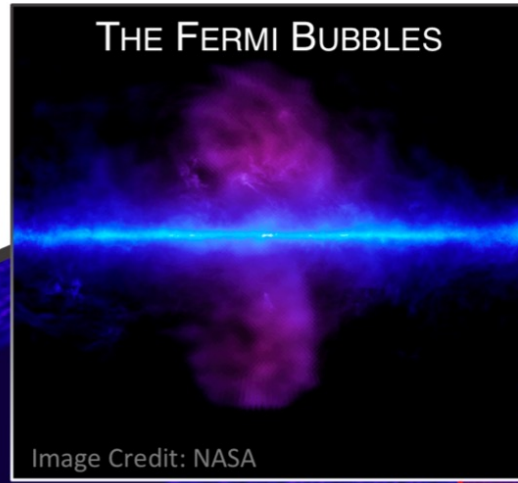
- Not just technical progress
  - Expect final legal entity (CTAO ERIC) to be established very early in 2025
  - Procurement process in motion for roads and foundations in Chile
    - first foundations in place by end of 2025
  - Science Data Management Centre in Zeuthen
    - New building - inauguration this week



Copyright: DESY /Marco Urban

## ● Strategy?

- *While the focus of the German groups for the next decade will be on the construction, commissioning and science operation of CTA data, plans are being developed to upgrade parts of the hardware of the system, that will be operated for several decades*



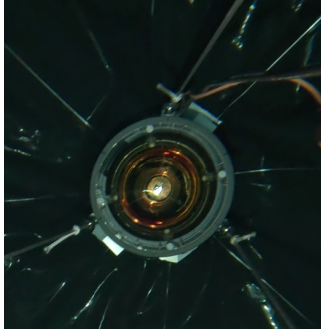
R&D phase since 2019 – nearly complete  
66 institutes in 14 countries  
Pathfinder from 2025  
Construction from 2026 (NSF prop.)

# SWGO Status?

SWGO Site, Pampa La Bola, 4760 m



Double 8-10 " PMT module



FlashCam readout



Inner array baseline

Prototype @ HAWC



5.2 m diameter dual-layer WCD





# SWGGO in Germany

## ● Institutes

- MPIK, Erlangen, Dortmund, Aachen (so far!)

## ● Activities

- Photosensors, electronics, simulations & analysis, science synergies CTA
- (Exploration of lake-based option → now a possible future extension)
- Leadership roles?
  - JAH is Spokesperson, Working Group Coordinators: R. White (MPIK, Detector), J. Glombitza (ECAP, Analysis & Simulations), ++

## ● Next steps

- Significant role in SWGO-A (NSF-led), ANTARES PMTs, FlashCam electronics, +++
- Support needed for University groups

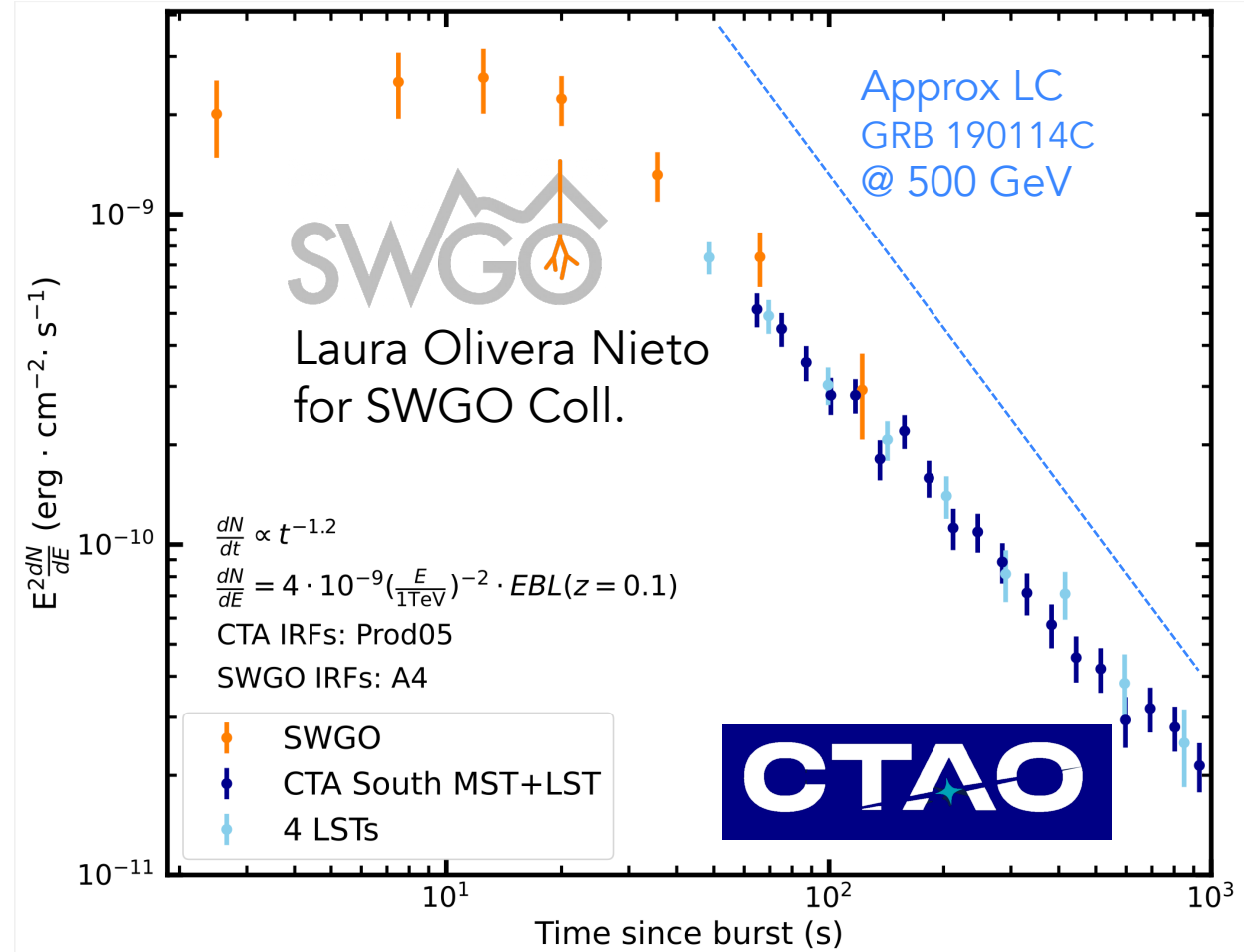
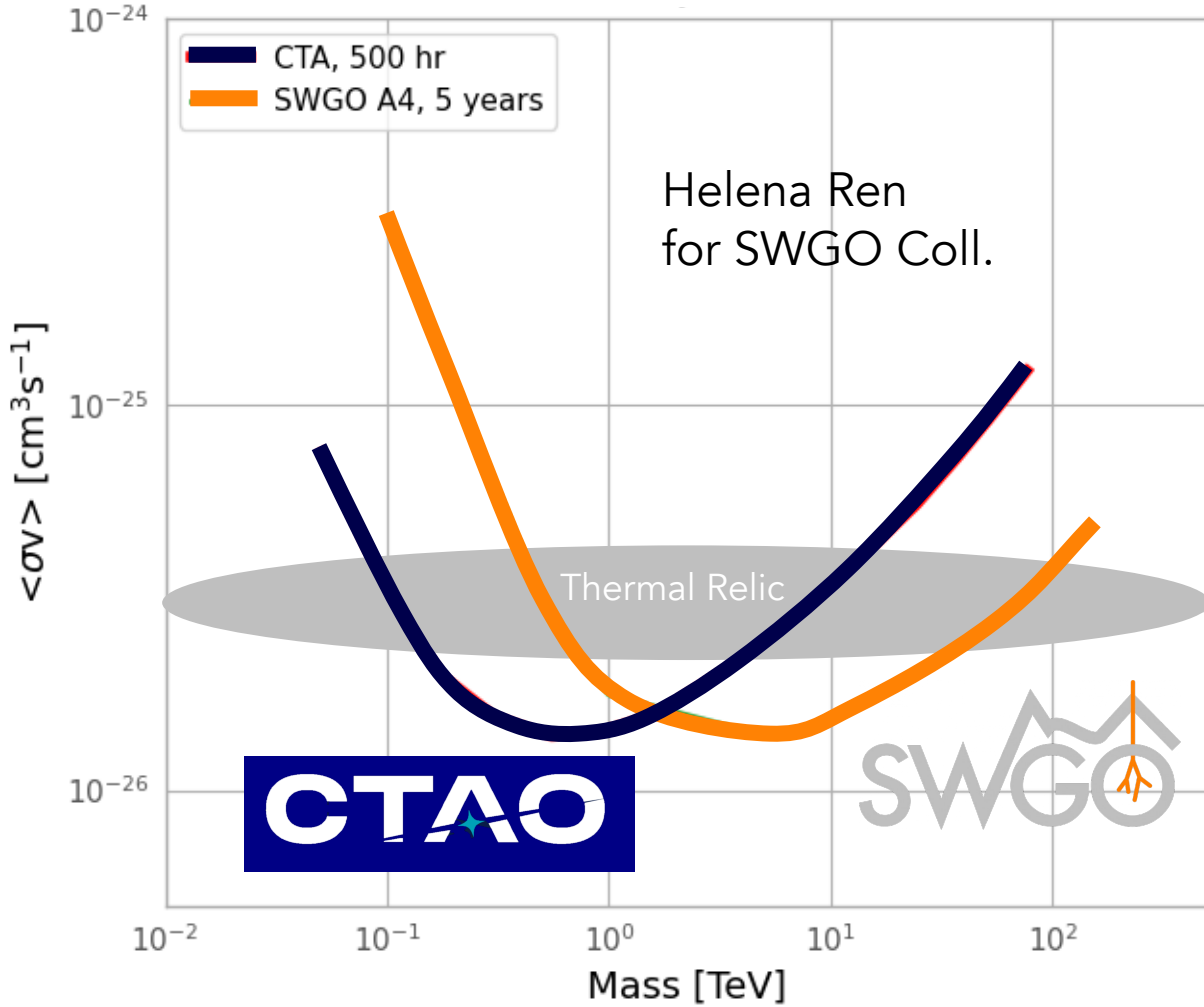
## SWGGO-A: 2026-2029

Application to NSF in prep. - deadline Nov 22. \$18M + 'in-kind' contributions from other partners. Sensitivity > HAWC in new hemisphere

Outer array proposals expected in 2025

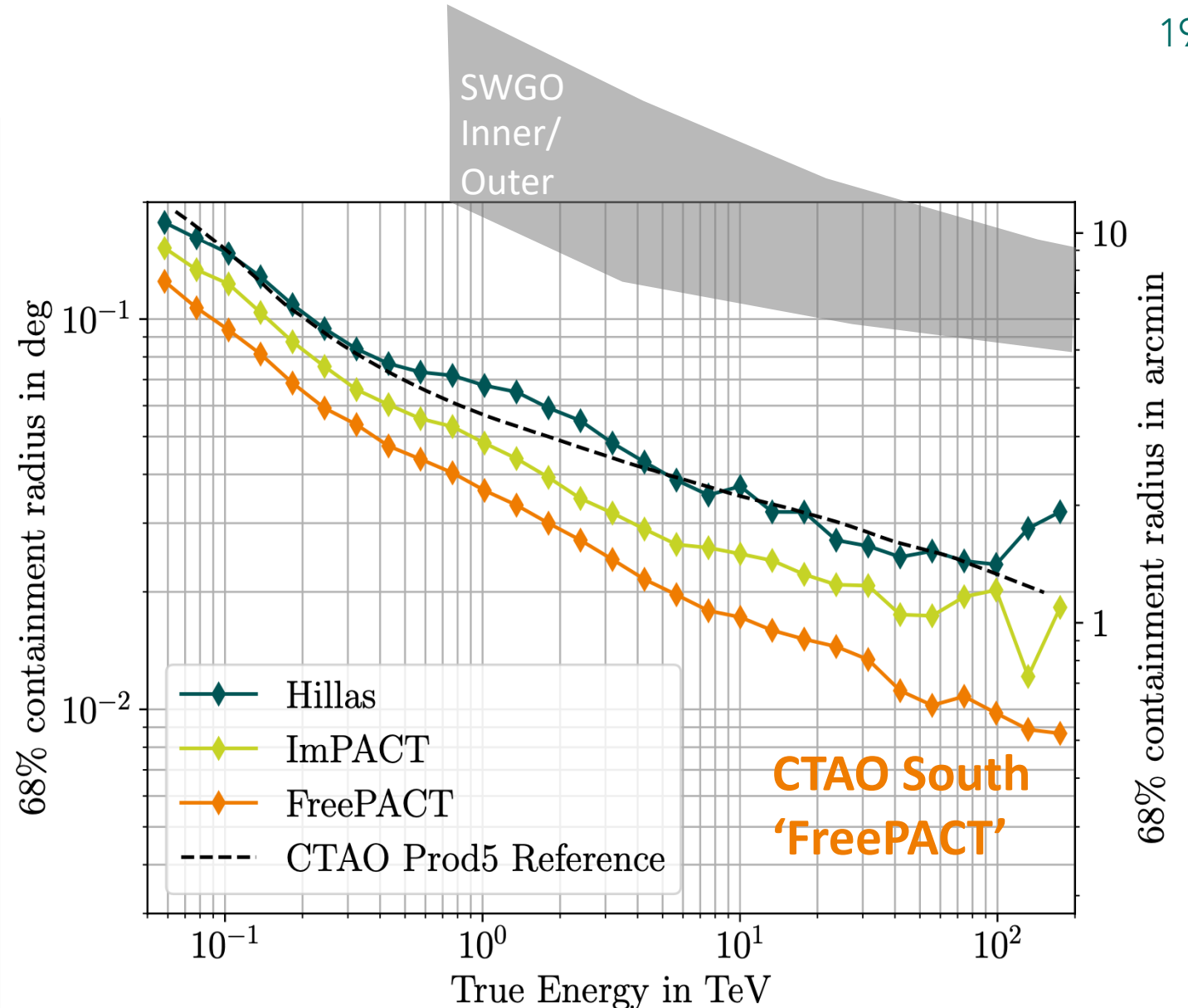
# SWGGO+CTA

Einasto,  $b\bar{b}$ , 5 years, 95% C.L.



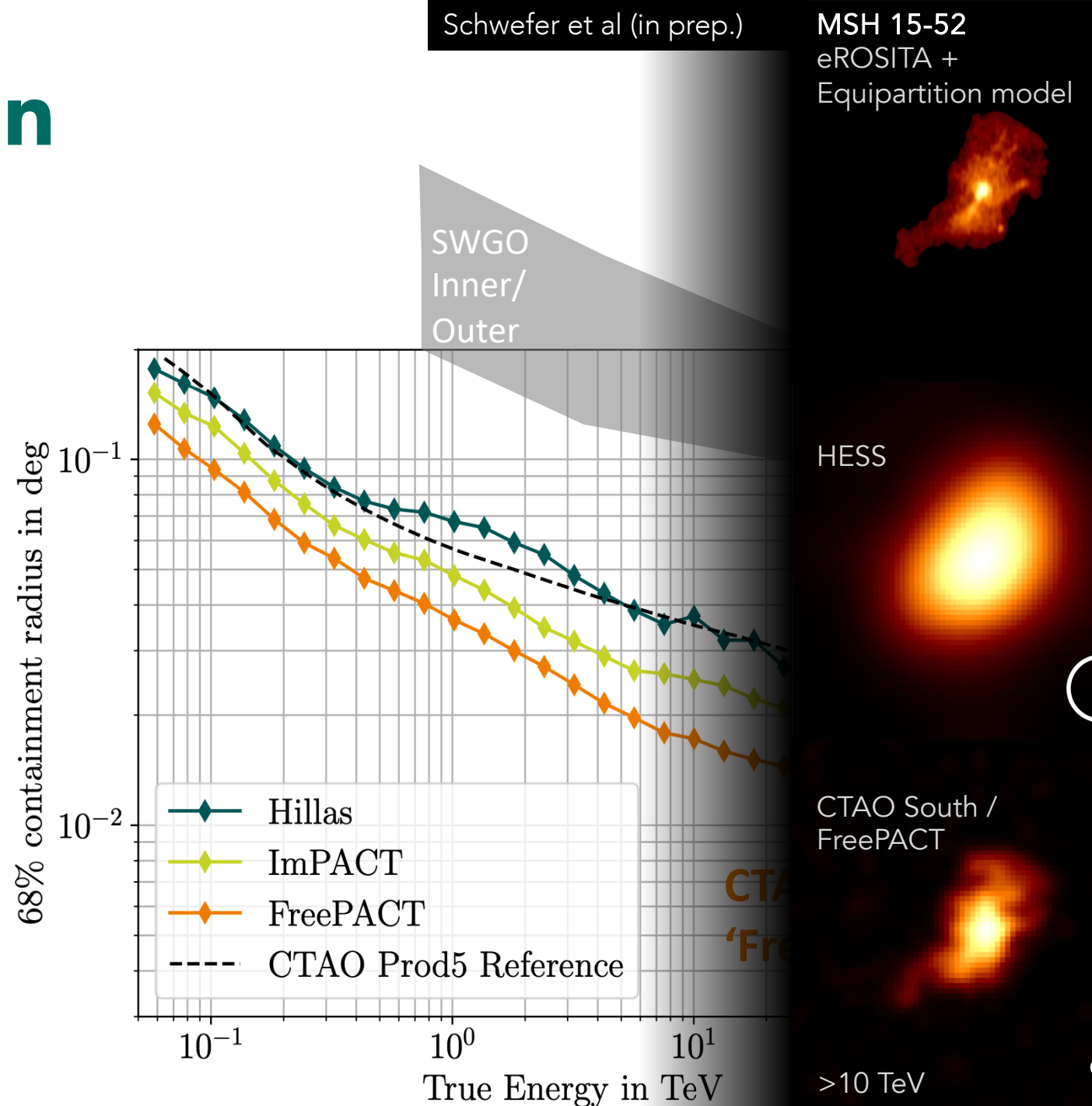
# Angular Resolution

- Ground-particle arrays cannot compete with CTAO
- Huge opportunity for precision astronomy at energies  $> \sim 10$  TeV (SSTs)
  - e.g. new hybrid machine learning/likelihood fitting
    - Schwefer, Parsons, Hinton 2024 (Aph 163, 103008)
  - 30 arcsecond resolution possible with CTA at 100 TeV!



# Angular Resolution

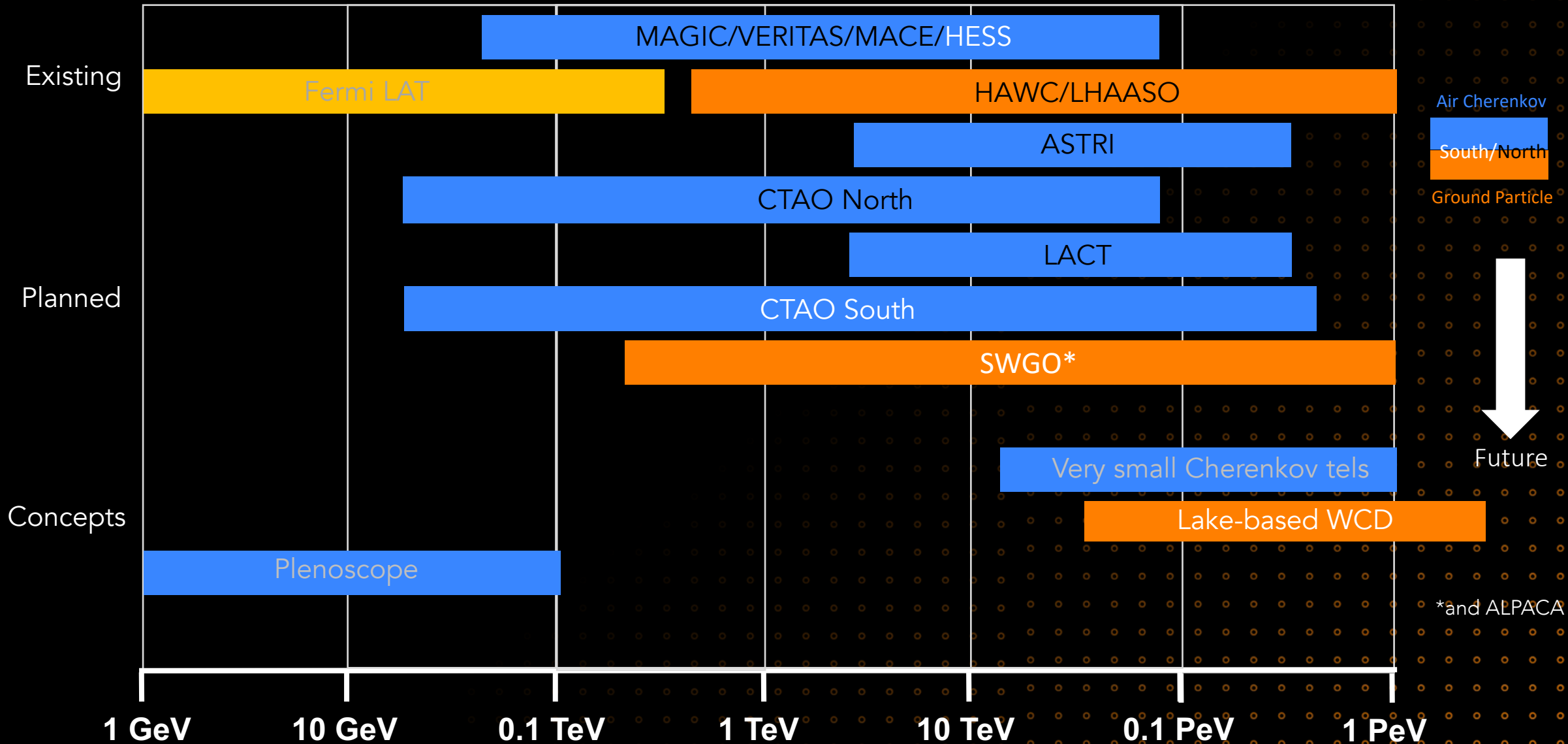
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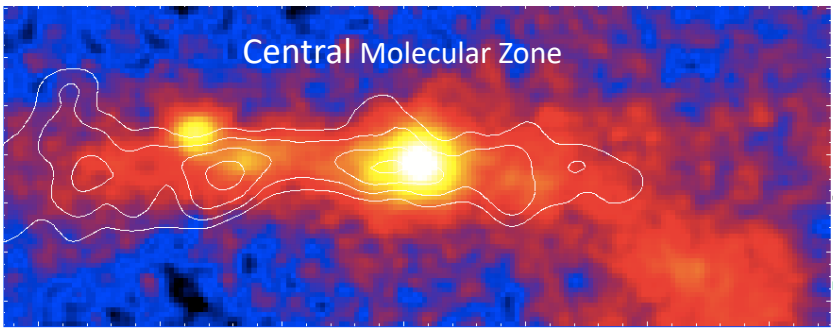
# Conclusions

- CTA Observatory is clear priority of the community and entering a critical (exciting!) phase
  - Support needed for construction, commissioning, early science – but also to start preparing upgrade options for the 2030s
- SWGO is a strongly complementary array with major German role
  - German community is well-placed to exploit the synergies with CTAO
  - Support needed to ensure that German unis can properly participate
- Closing the 'MeV gap' a major priority of the global community
  - Germany is well-placed to play a major role, close connections neutrino astronomy as well as VHE gammas +++
  - Support need for detector R&D

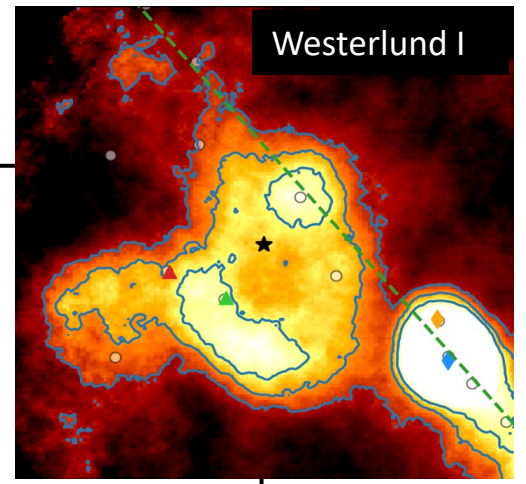
# Discussion



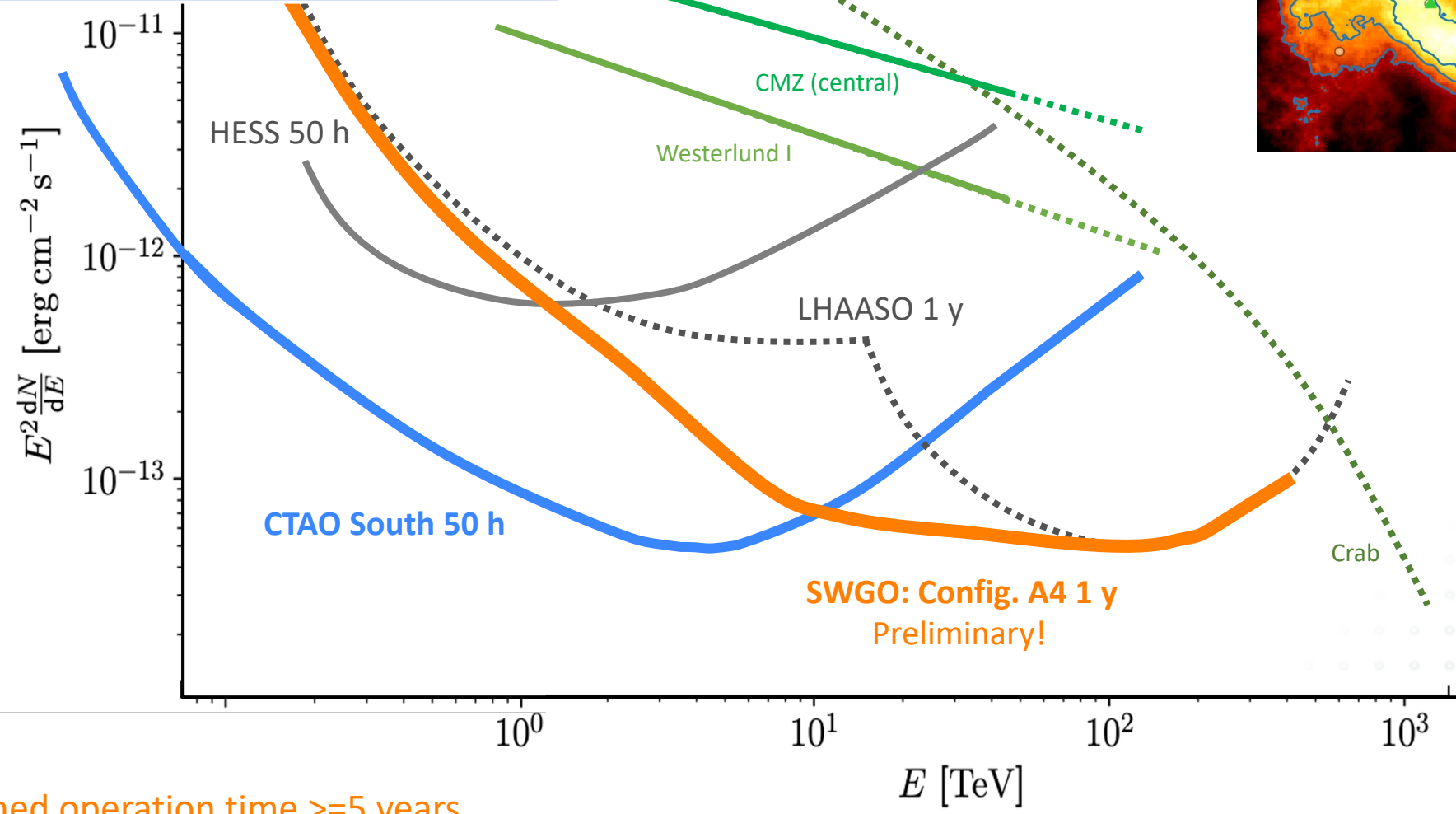
\*and ALPACA



Southern Hemisphere  
UHE sources



24



\*planned operation time  $\geq 5$  years



# UHE Lake

- R&D effort over last few years within context of SWGO
  - New lake facility at LHAASO site
  - Deep under water bladders as cost-effective alternative to buried muon detectors of LHAASO
  - Surface WCD development at MPIK+++
- Possible UHE extension to SWGO
  - Under evaluation

