



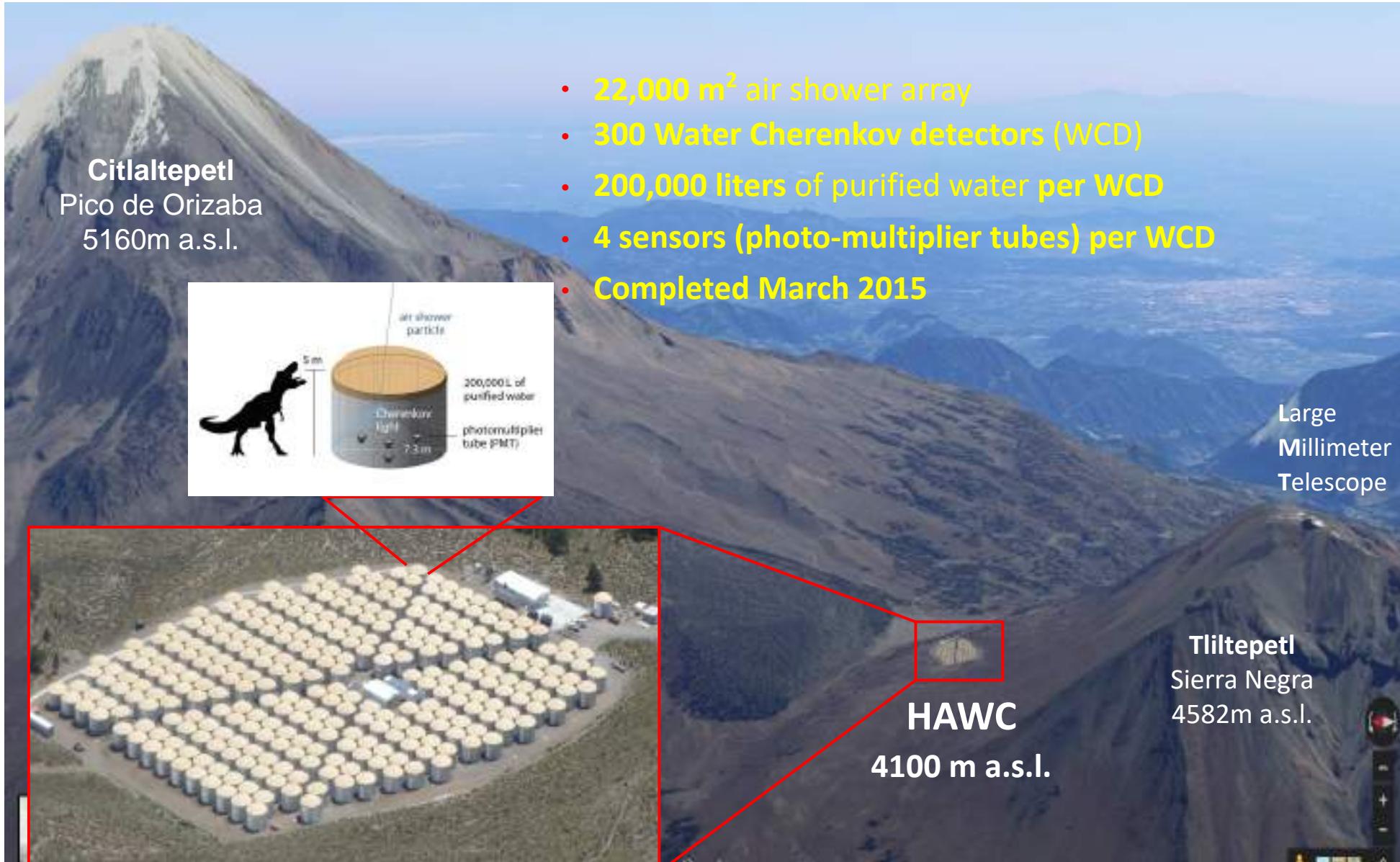
HAWC the high energy gamma ray observatory



Presented at the CLAF meeting
April 20th 2023
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

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Instituto de Física
UNAM, Mexico

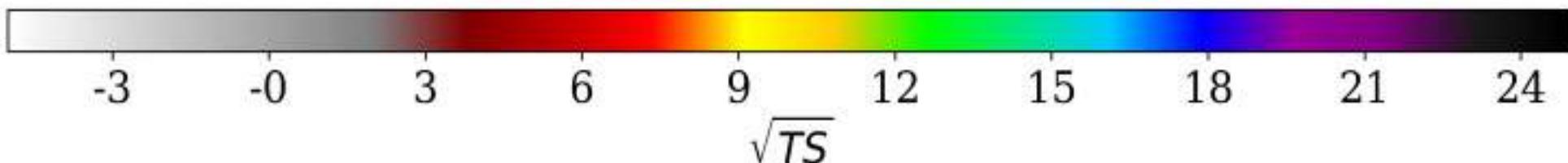
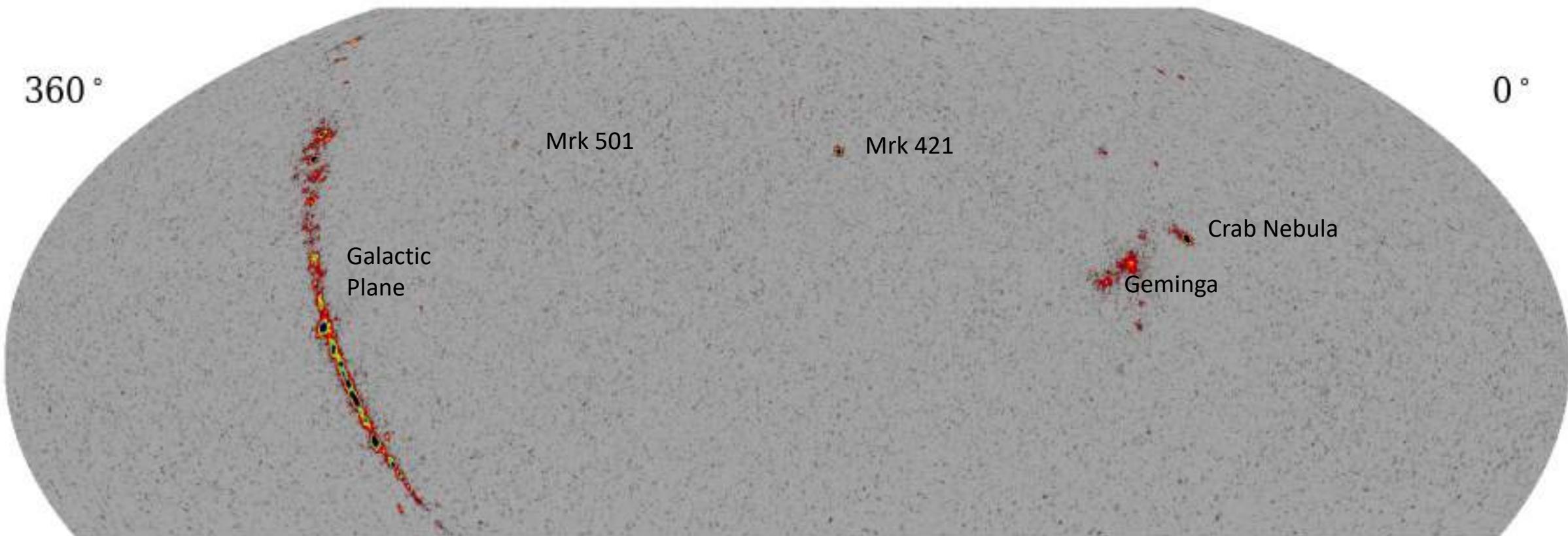
High Altitude Water Cherenkov (HAWC) Observatory in Central Mexico at 4,100 m a.s.l.



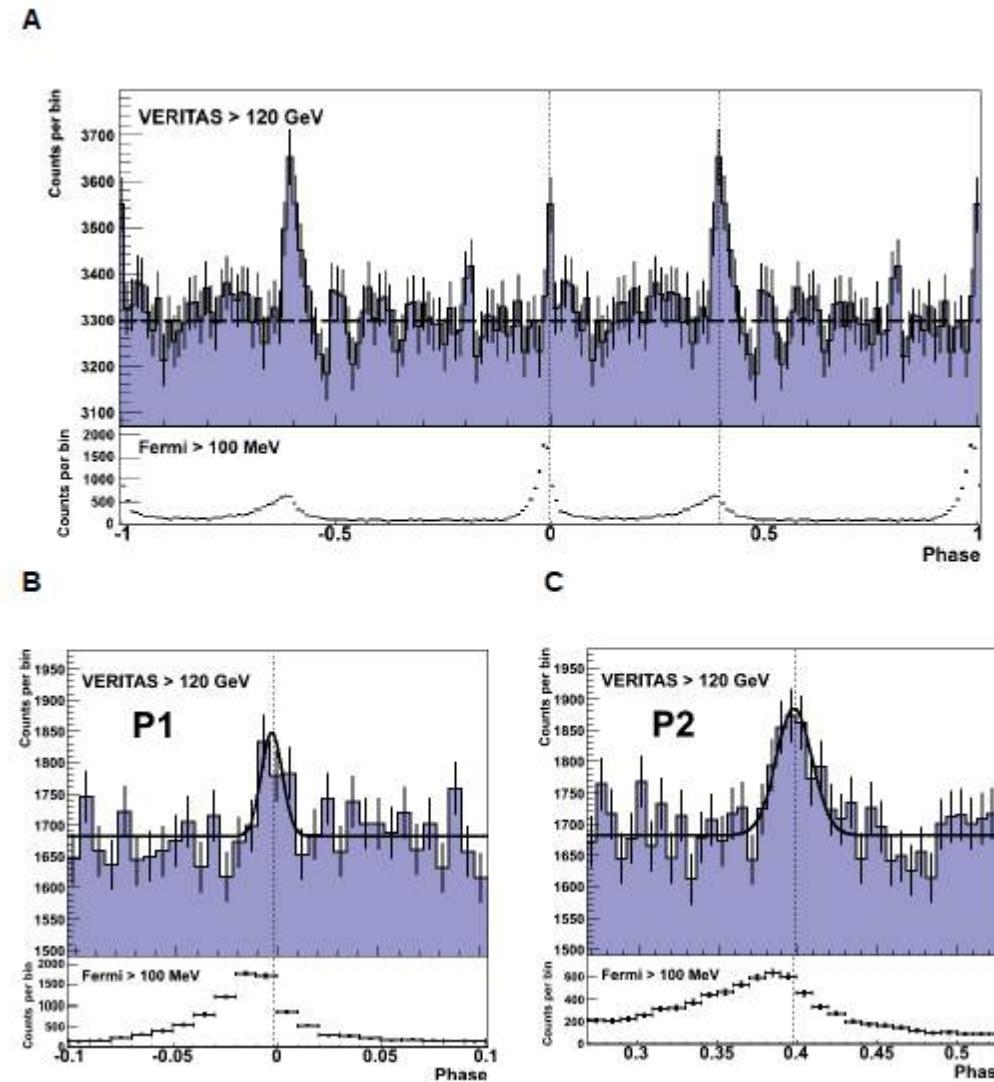
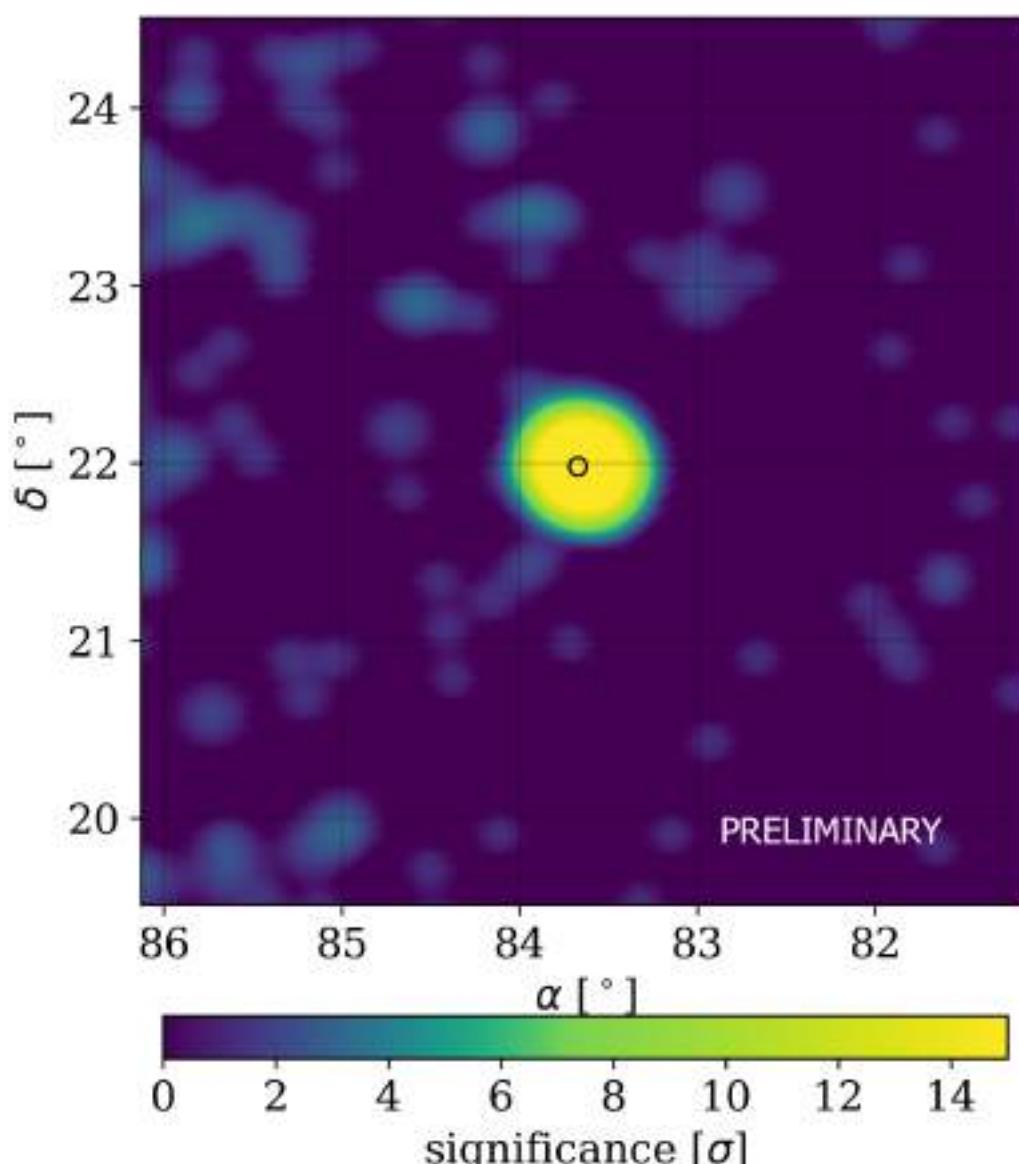
Shower particles from primary gamma and cosmic rays hit the water tanks and give faint light flashes (Cherenkov radiation)



HAWC Sky Map 2090 Days of Data



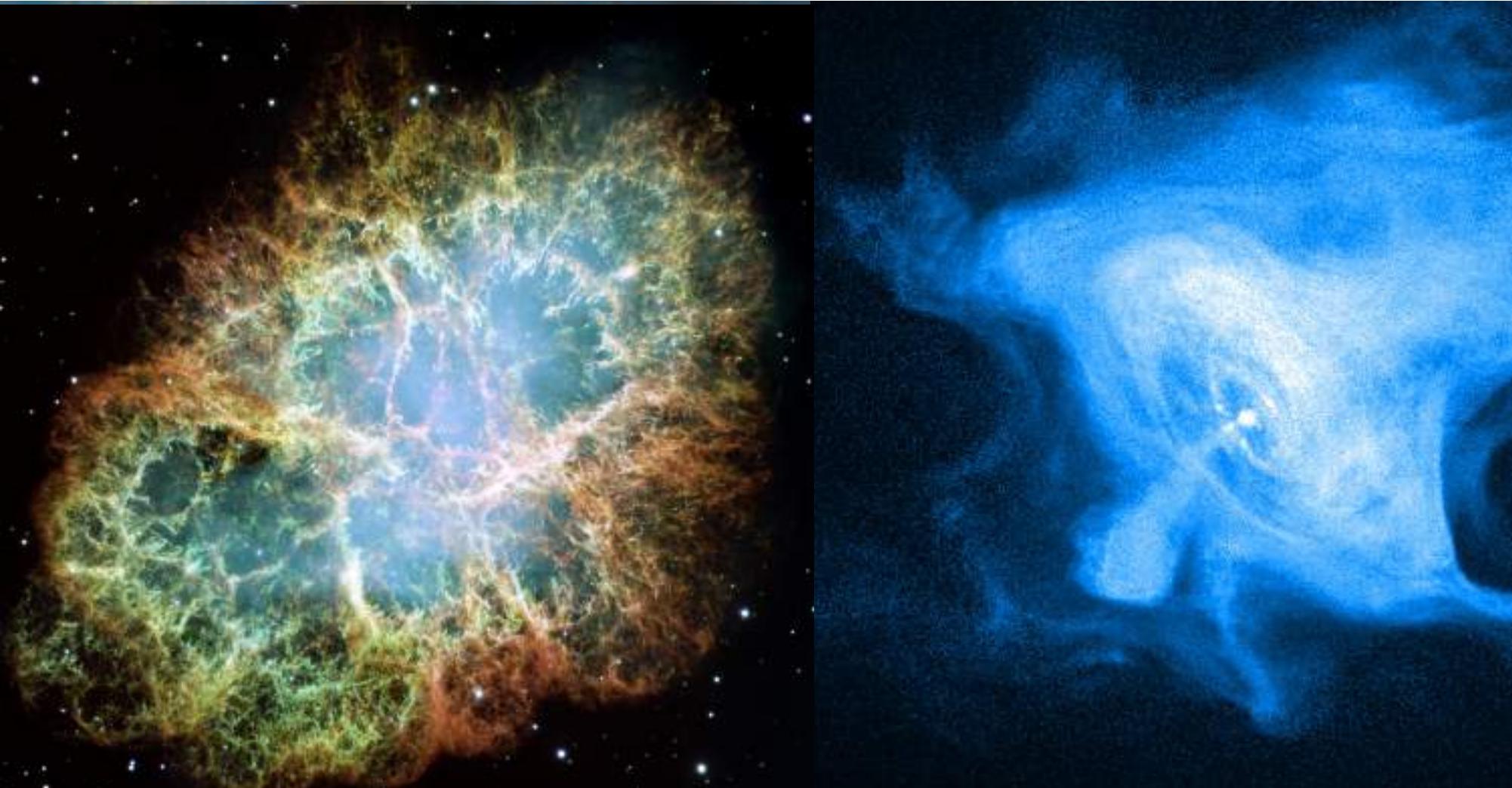
6500 light years rotates 30 x per second





La Nebulosa del Cangrejo

SN que vista en 1050 por los chinos

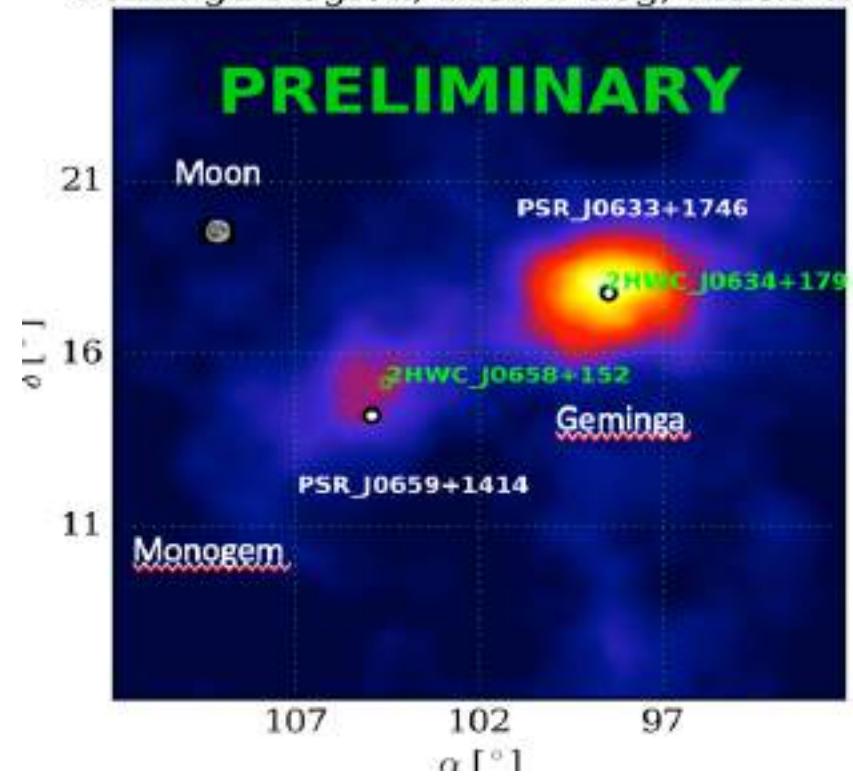




Geminga largest region in the sky emitting high energy gamma rays

- Pulsar 800 million light years away

Geminga Region, Disk 2 deg, index -2.2



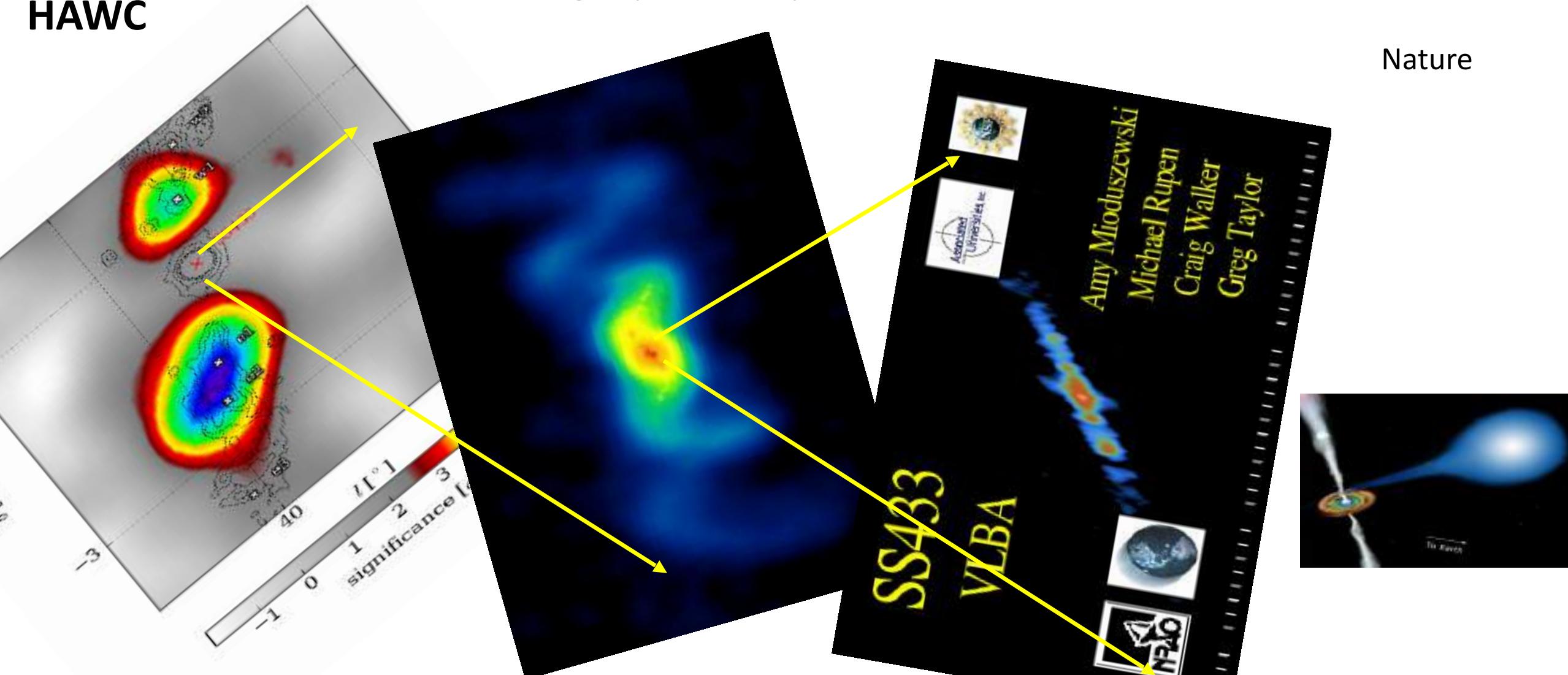


First detection of γ -rays from a binary system of a black hole and a 2 solar mass A type star

HAWC

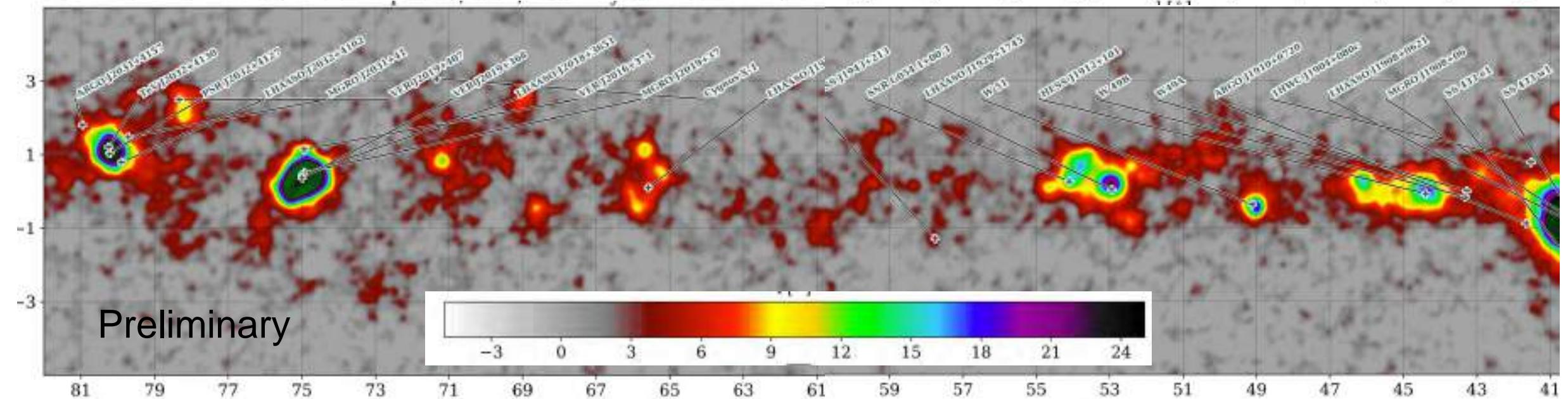
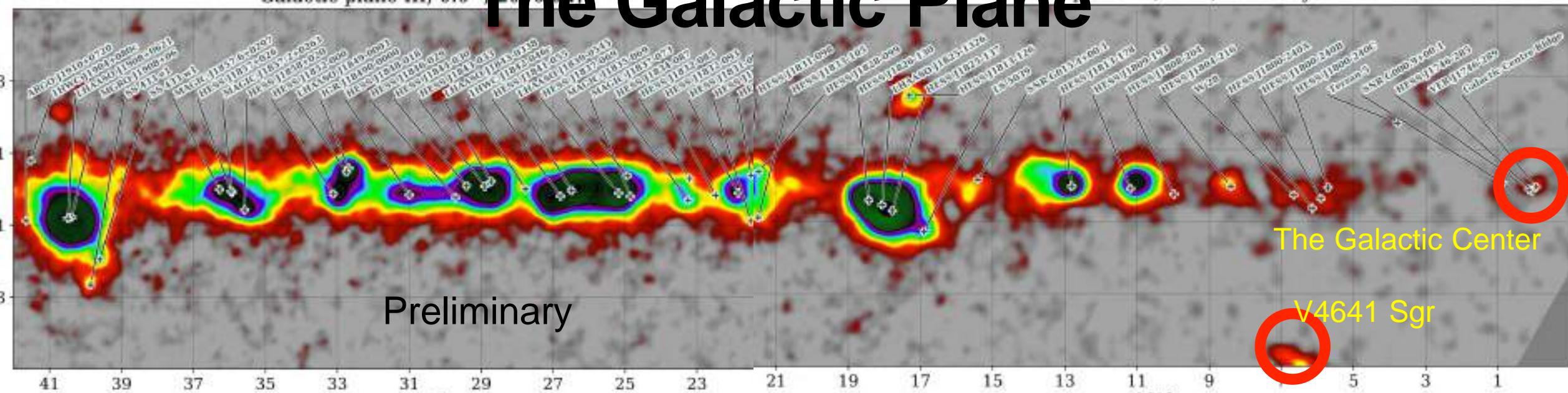
15,000 light years away

Nature





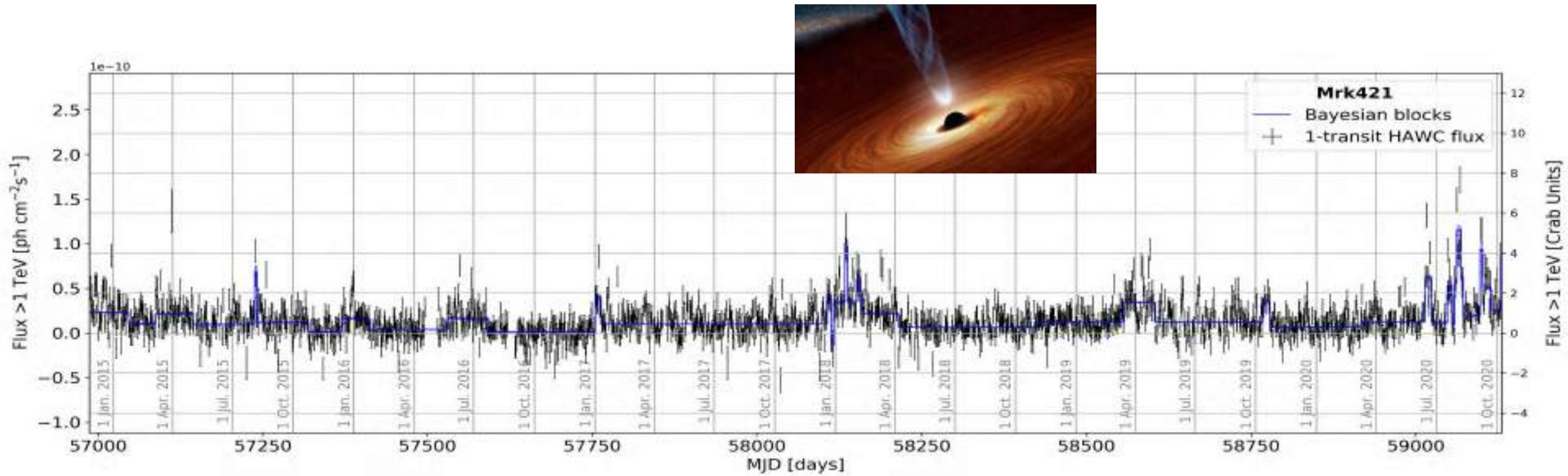
The Galactic Plane





Daily monitoring of the active galaxy Mrk 421

400 million light years away



One Observatory



Two Nations



Three Funding Agencies



Four grant holders



A. Sandoval

J. Goodman

A. Carramiñana B. Dingus

Twenty seven Institutions



The HAWC Collaboration 2015



University of Maryland: Jordan Goodman, Andrew Smith, Greg Sullivan, Jim Braun

Los Alamos National Laboratory: Gus Sinnis, Brenda Dingus, John Pretz

University of Wisconsin: Teresa Montaruli, Stefan Westerhoff

University of Utah: Dave Kieda, Wayne Springer

Univ. of California, Irvine: Gaurang Yodh, Scott DeLay

Univ. of California, Santa Cruz: Michael Schneider

Michigan State University: Jim Linnemann, Kirsten Tollefson

George Mason University: Robert Ellsworth

University of New Hampshire: James Ryan

Pennsylvania State University: Tyce DeYoung,
Patrick Toale, Kathryne Sparks

University of New Mexico: John Matthews, William Miller

Michigan Technical University: Petra Hüntemeyer

NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center: Julie McEnery

Georgia Institute of Technology: Ignacio Taboada

Colorado State University: Miguel Mustafa



USA



Mexico



The HAWC Collaboration



Formed in 2007 by Mexico and United States.
Now with participation of Europe, Latin America and Asia

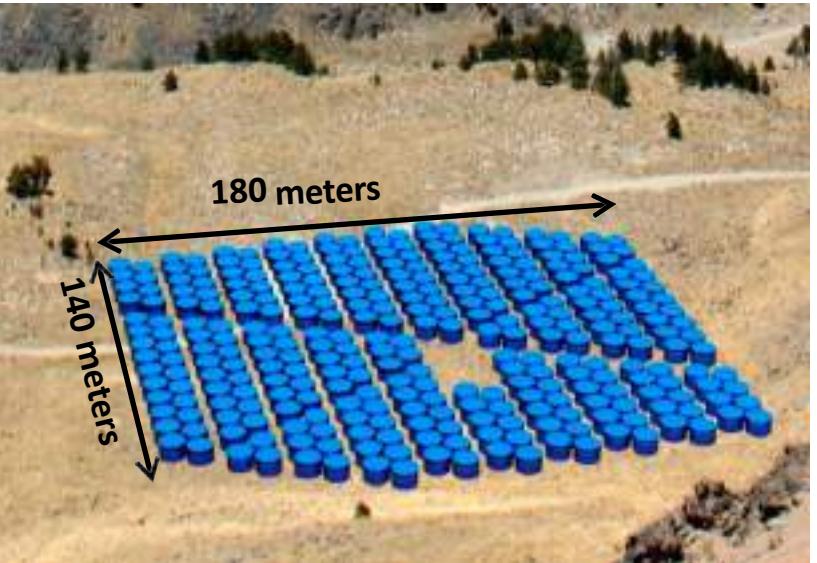


Time line

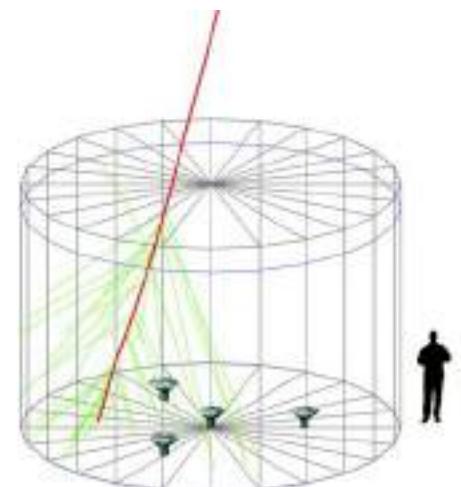
- In 2007 the site in Volcan Sierra Negra in central Mexico was chosen as the site for the HAWC observatory
 - In great part because 14 Mexican institution joined the largest Science project to be built in Mexico
- 2008-2010 we built prototype detectors, finalized design and created an Engineering array
- 2008 -2010 we submitted several proposals to NSF, DoE and CONACYT
- **2010 NSF, DoE and CONACYT agree to fund HAWC**
 - NSF and Conacyt funds arrive February 2011
 - DoE funds arrive January 2012



HAWC Design



- 300 water Cherenkov detectors of 200,000 liters and 4 photomultipliers each.
- 4th PMT financed by LANL and Mexico
- Modular design allows to start operations with a partial array



Components of a Water Cherenkov Detector WCD





HAWC Proposals 3

- PASAG review in Summer 2009, report in Oct. 2009
 - “Build under all funding scenarios”
- NSF DOE HAWC Review in Spring 2010 (Maryland)
 - Strong endorsement for funding
 - Recommendations for management
 - Recommend baseline of 250 tanks with last 50 from contingency
 - Recommendation for review at each major stage
- **2010 NSF, DoE and CONACYT agree to fund HAWC**
 - NSF and Conacyt funds arrive February 2011
 - DoE funds arrive January 2012

HAWC-30: Engineering Test of full detector

HAWC-111: Operations Begins: August 2013 (283 days)

HAWC-250: November, 2014 (~150Days)

HAWC-300: March 2015 – Present : >95% uptime

HAWC Inauguration, HAWC-300: March, 2015

HAWC-300

HAWC-250

HAWC-30

HAWC-111



HAWC inauguration 20 March 2015
Dr. France Cordoba director NSF
Dr. Enrique Cabrero director CONACYT



With 3 funding agencies: NSF, DoE and Conacyt

- we had to be very detailed in the project management
- in the budget, spending profiles, contingency, multi year funding
- from 2012 to 2019 we had a quarterly review by the JOG, Joint Oversight Group with the NSF and DoE project officers, the Conacyt adjunct director for Science and the UNAM Science coordinator
- The US embassy in Mexico was a great help during the construction
- also we had many other separate reviews
- we profited from knowledge, equipment, software from many sources: Milagro, Auger, FERMI, Veritas



HAWC production up to April 2023

- 68 papers published
- one in Nature
- two in Science
- cited 5,513 times
- 42 Ph. D. thesis
- It has brought Mexico to the forefront of High Energy Astrophysics
- It has shown that large, successful multi-year projects can be done in Mexico

HAWC main array construction begins February 2011 Completed March 2015
On Time, On Budget

Cost ~\$15M split evenly between Mexico (CONACYT and UNAM), NSF and DoE

Outrigger upgrade project completed August 2018

Cost ~\$1M (DOE, Mexico and MPIK)

Operating with >95% on-time

Operating Costs \$1M/yr (Mexico, NSF)



Outlook

- We will need your support to build a much larger and ambitious gamma ray observatory in South America.

The Southern Wide-field Gamma-ray Observatory (SWGO)

