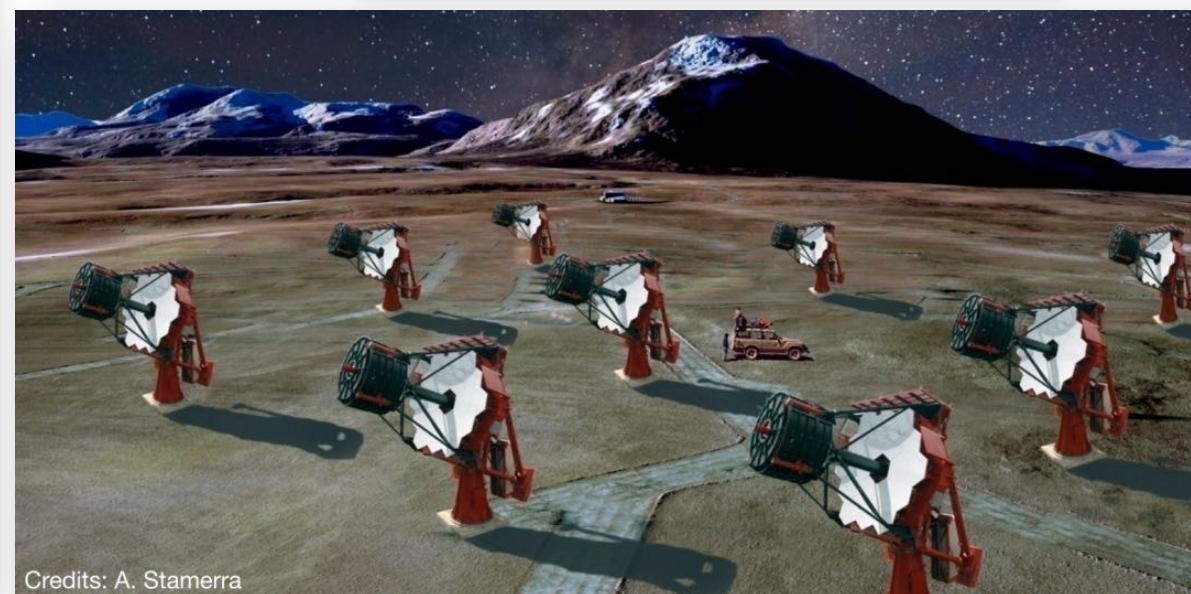




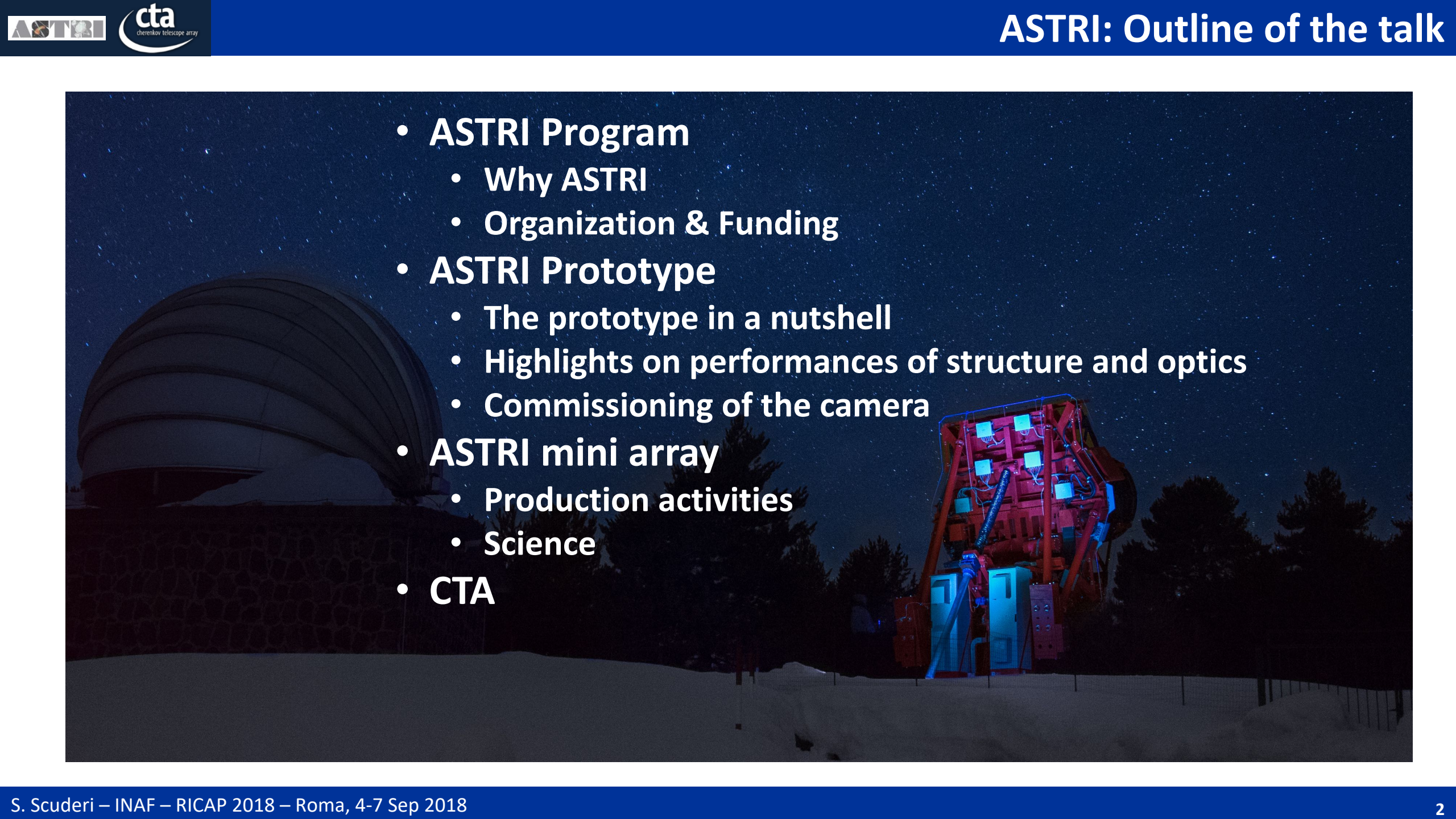
# The ASTRI Program

Salvo Scuderi – INAF IASF Milano & OA Catania  
for the CTA/ASTRI Project



Credits: A. Stamerra



- 
- **ASTRI Program**
    - Why ASTRI
    - Organization & Funding
  - **ASTRI Prototype**
    - The prototype in a nutshell
    - Highlights on performances of structure and optics
    - Commissioning of the camera
  - **ASTRI mini array**
    - Production activities
    - Science
  - **CTA**

# ASTRI - Astrofisica con Specchi a Tecnologia Replicante Italiana

## *Astrophysics with Mirrors via Italian Replication Technology*

Name given by Nanni Bignami

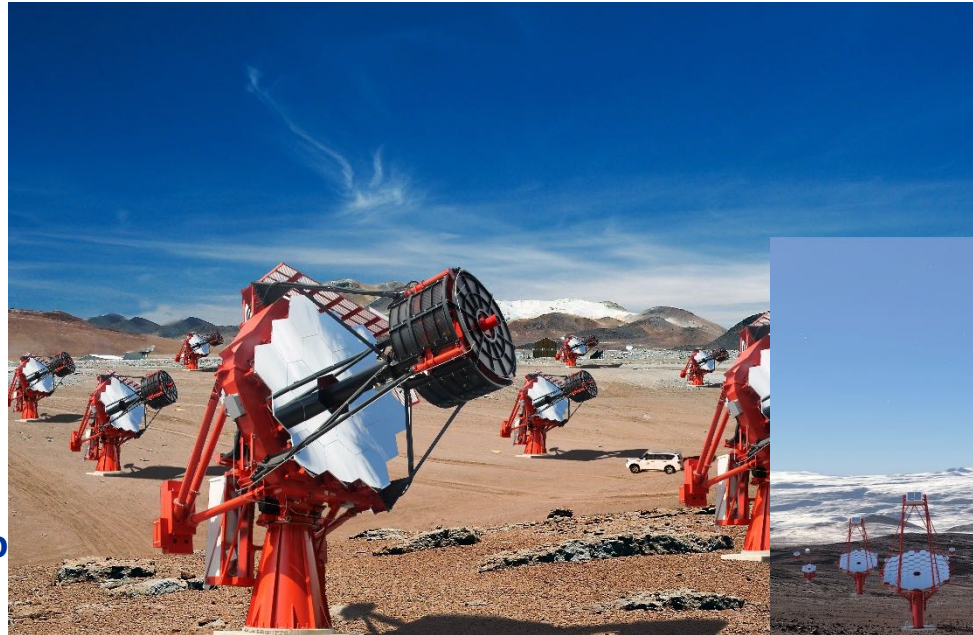




## Prototype



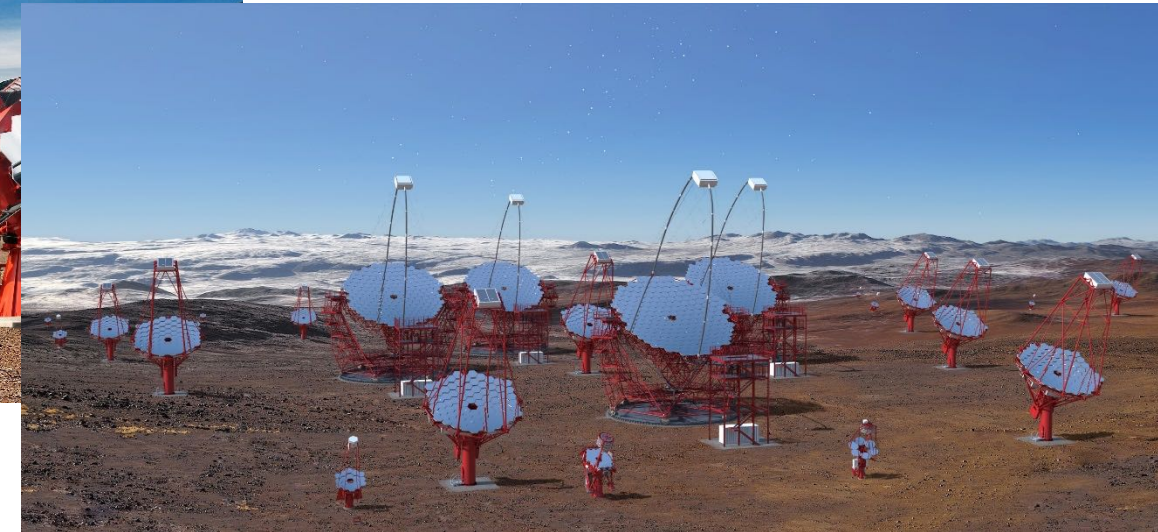
- Test the stereoscopic imaging capabilities,
- Test array trigger system
- Test array control system
- E2E approach → astrophysical observations



## Mini-Array

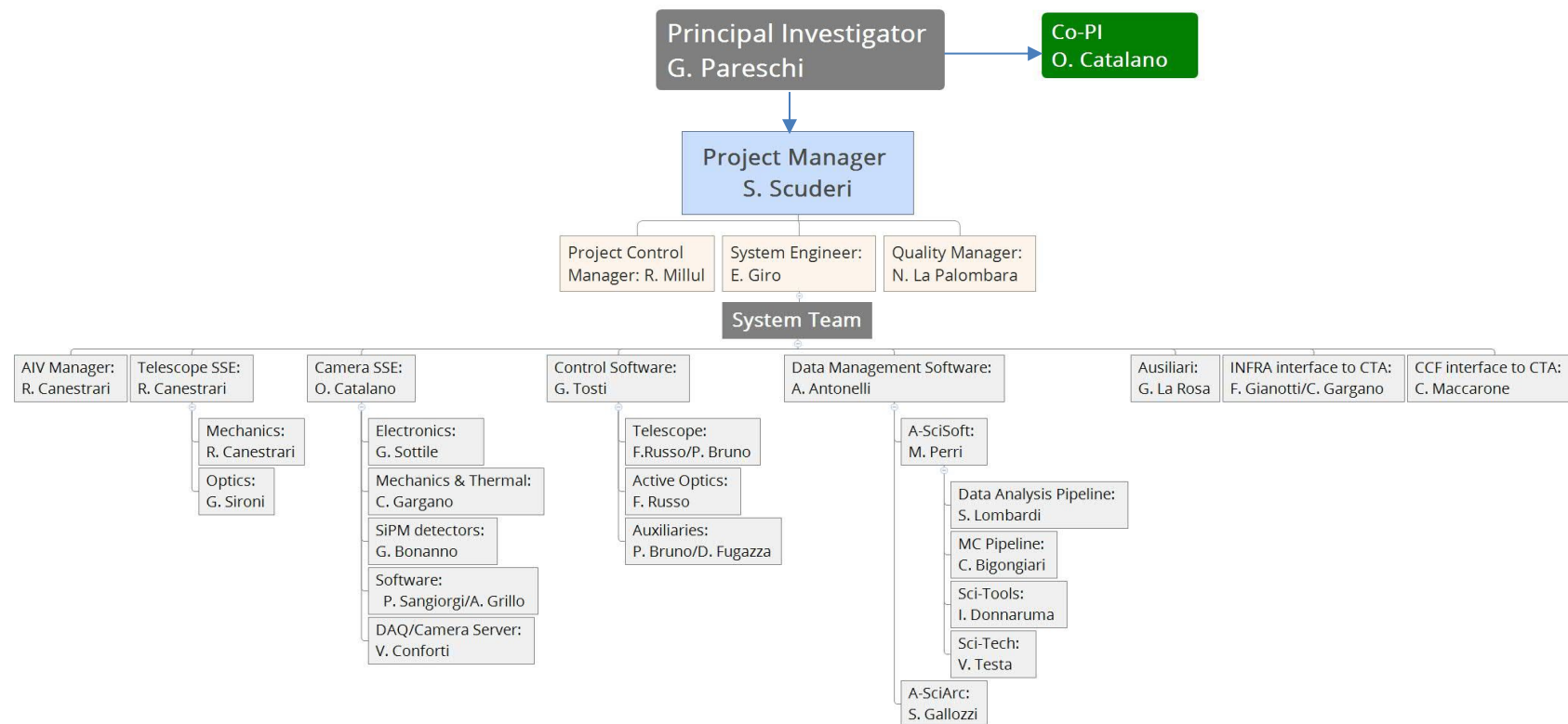
- Demonstrator to validate the new technology
- Training facility for telescope and maintenance operations.
- Test bench for the implementation of new HW and SW.
- E2E approach validated through astrophysical Cherenkov observations

## CTAO



Contribution to the production of a number of SST telescopes for CTA south site







- **Prototype:** funds from MIUR through Flagship project and PRIN
- **Mini-array:** Dedicated funds from MISE – “Astronomia Industriale” (10 M€), and international partners in particular Universidade de Sao Paulo – Brazil, (1.8 M€) and North Western University – South Africa (0.3 M€)
- **CTAO:** funds from MIUR (50 M€) that undersigned an MoU with CTAO mainly, but not only, for SST implementation. Other possible contributions to Array Control, Data Handling, Calibration Facilities, LST-south...





## Mechanical Structure

### Dimensions & Mass

Height of the Telescope (pointing horizontally & vertically)	7.5 m & 8.6 m
Radius of free area for Az. Movements	5.3 m
Total Mass of the prototype	19000 kg

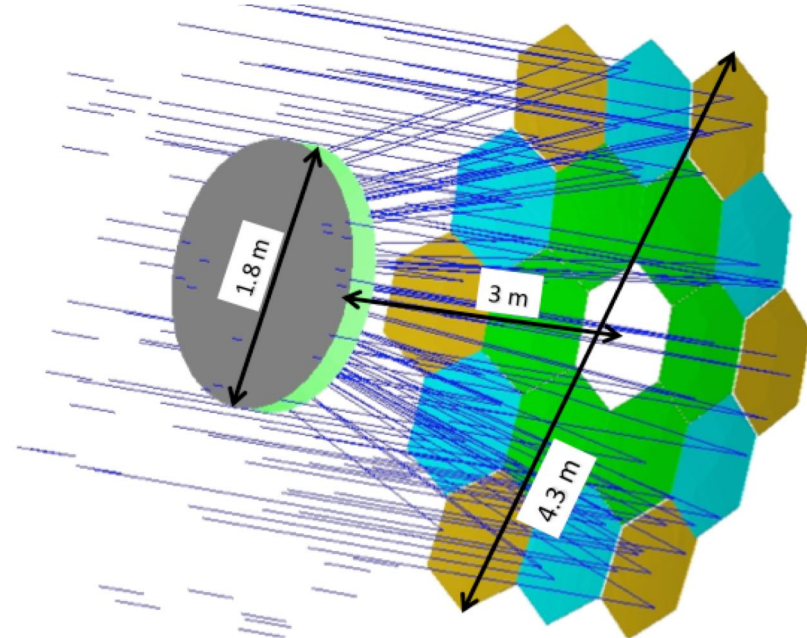
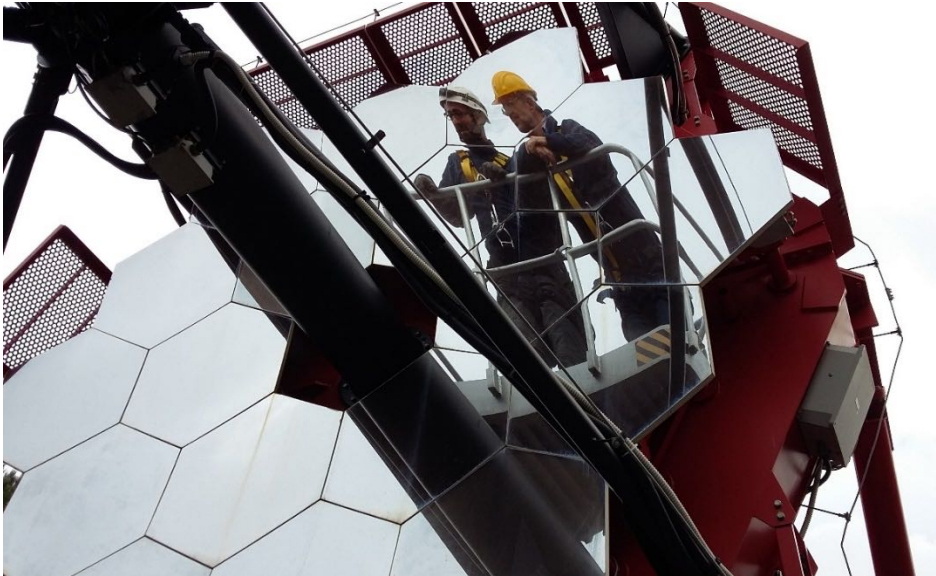
### Tracking & Pointing

Driver Encoder Precision	2 arcsec
Tracking Precision	$<0.1^\circ$
Pointing Precision After Calibration	5 arcsec

### Servo Control

Motors & Drivers	SEW
PLC	Beckhoff
Encoders	Heidenhain





## Optics

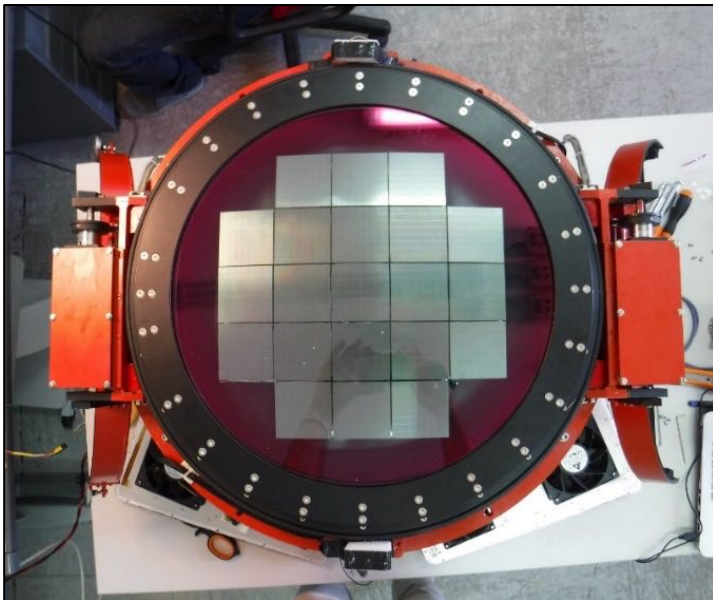
Optical Configuration	Schwarzschild-Couder
Average effective collecting area	5 m <sup>2</sup>
Focal Length	2.2 m
Aperture	4.3 m
f/#	0.5
FOV	10.5° (8.2° prototype)
PSF (@ 100 % of FOV diameter)	0.19°

### Primary Mirror (segmented)

Diameter	4.306 m
Number of segments	18
Size of a segment	850 mm (face-to-face)
Nominal Radius of Curvature Ring 1,2,3	8.52, 9.87, 12.54 m
Technology	Cold Slumping
Coating	Al+SiO <sub>2</sub>
Micro-roughness (RMS, 0.1 - 200 mm spatial wavelength range)	< 2 nm

### Secondary Mirror (monolithic)

Diameter	1.8 m
Technolgy	Hot Slumping
Coating	Al+SiO <sub>2</sub>

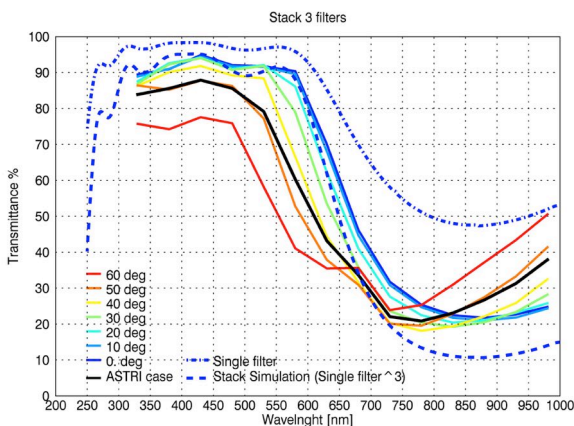
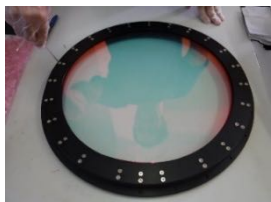


## Cherenkov Camera

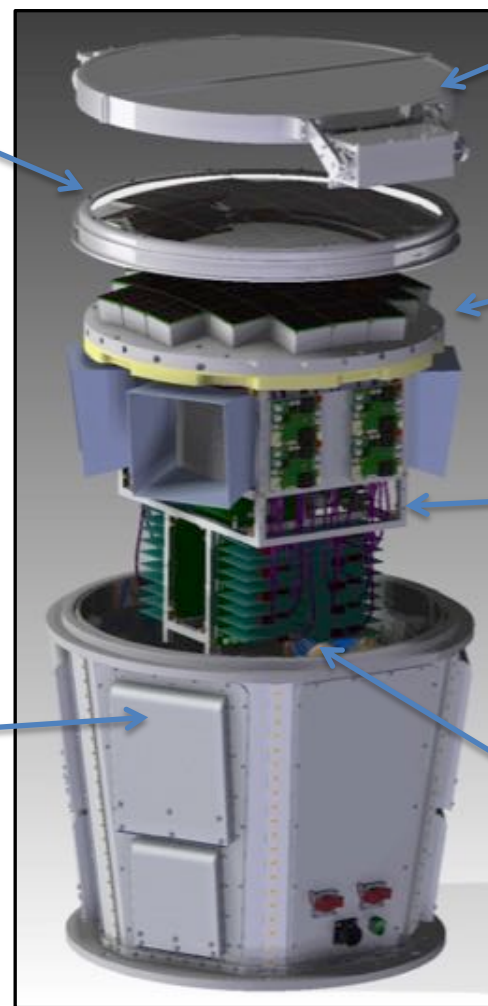
Camera opening Angle	70°
Sensors	SiPM (Hamamatsu LCT5)
Number of Pixels	2368 (1344 prototype)
Pixel size	7x7 mm
Pixel rate	4kH Hz
Dynamical range	1 – 2000 (1350 prototype) pe <sup>-</sup> /pixel
Photon Detection Efficiency	> 35% @ 400nm
FoV	10.5° (8.2° prototype)
Weight	73 kg
Dimensions	0.52m x 0.66m x 0.56m
Power consumption	0.65 kW



## Front window



## Thermal Control System

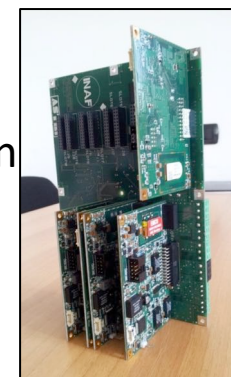


Lids

Photon  
Detection  
Module

Back-End  
Electronics

Voltage  
Distribution  
Board



## • Front Window

- Multilayers Filters to reject the red part of the NSB.

## • Thermal Control System

- All internal → no chiller
- TEC based, heat pipes, sink, fans → Active control

• **Low power consumption: 450 kW**

## • Photon Detection Module

- SiPM → Hamamatsu LCT5 7x7mm
- Front End Electronics
  - Based on signal shaping not sampling
  - High gain and low gain channels
- **Low power consumption (0.3 W/chip)**
- **Low data production (0.05 Gb/s)**

## • Back End Electronics

- monolithic board to manage PDMs, camera trigger & ancillary devices

## • Power Supply Distribution

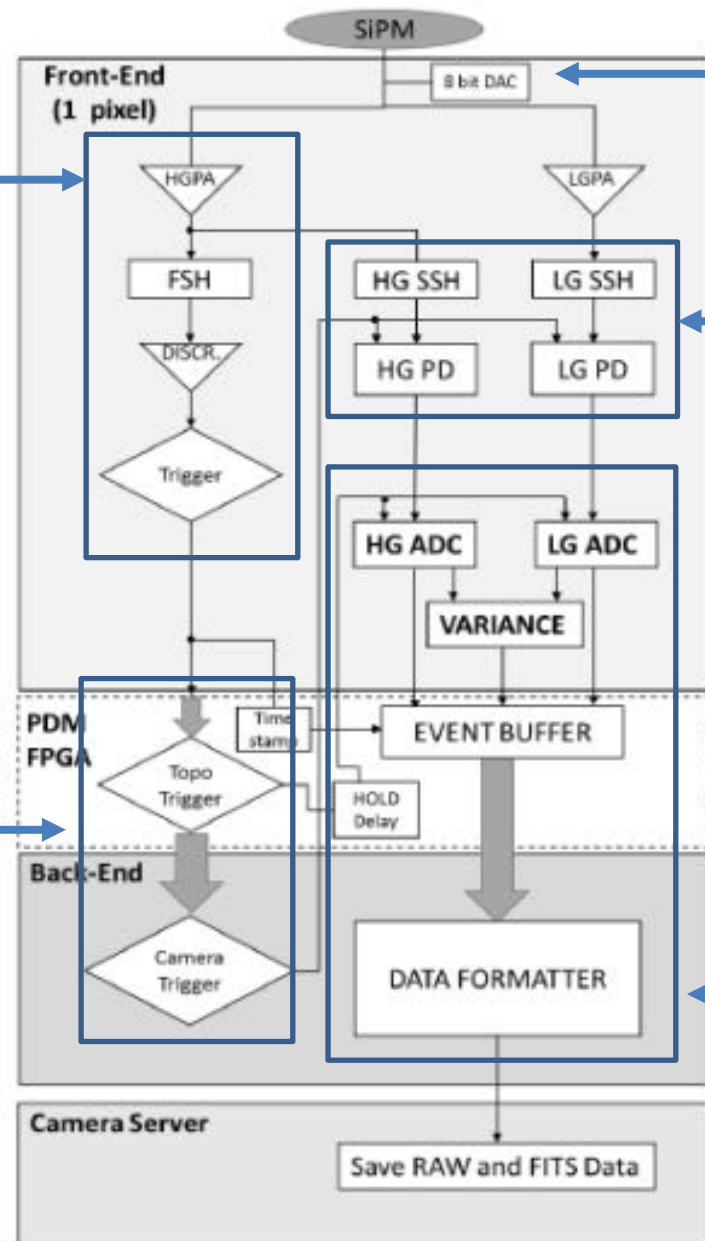
- External power supply 24V
- Voltage distribution board → modular system to provide independent and adjustable power supply to PDM

## • Camera DAQ & Server

## Trigger Chain

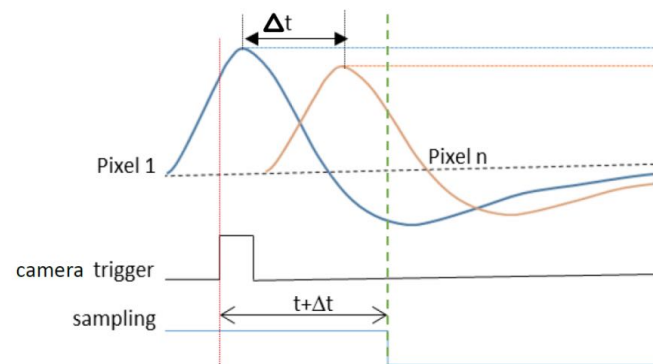
- Produce a digital output when a fast varying signal on the fast shaper (FSH) exceeds a pre-set discriminator threshold.
- Used in counting mode: Dark current and optical cross talk measurements and trigger calibration

When 4 contiguous pixels trigger (topological trigger) then camera trigger activates peak detection mode for all pixels



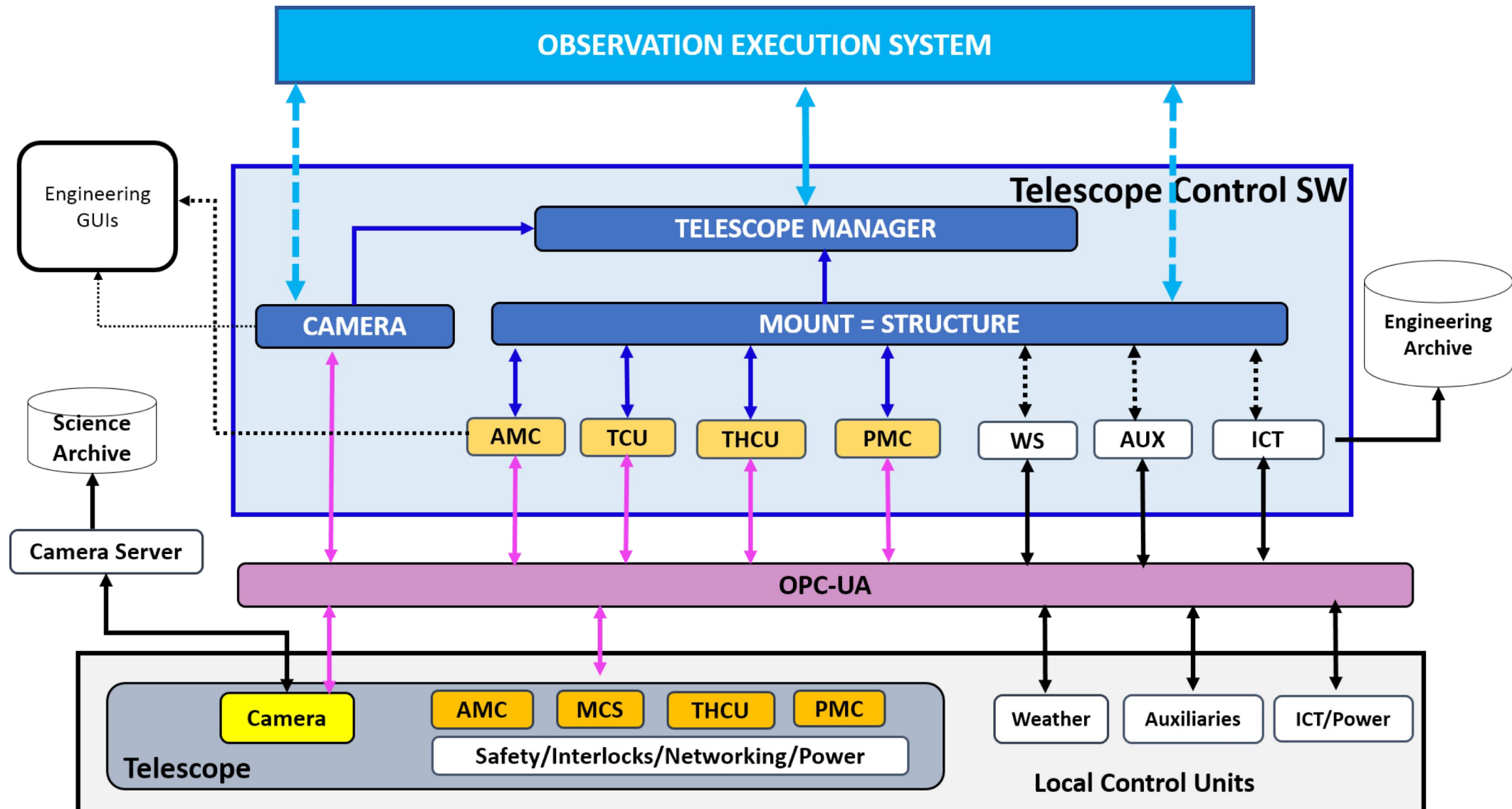
Input DAC: HV adjustment for gain equalization due to pixel-to pixel variation and temperature differences

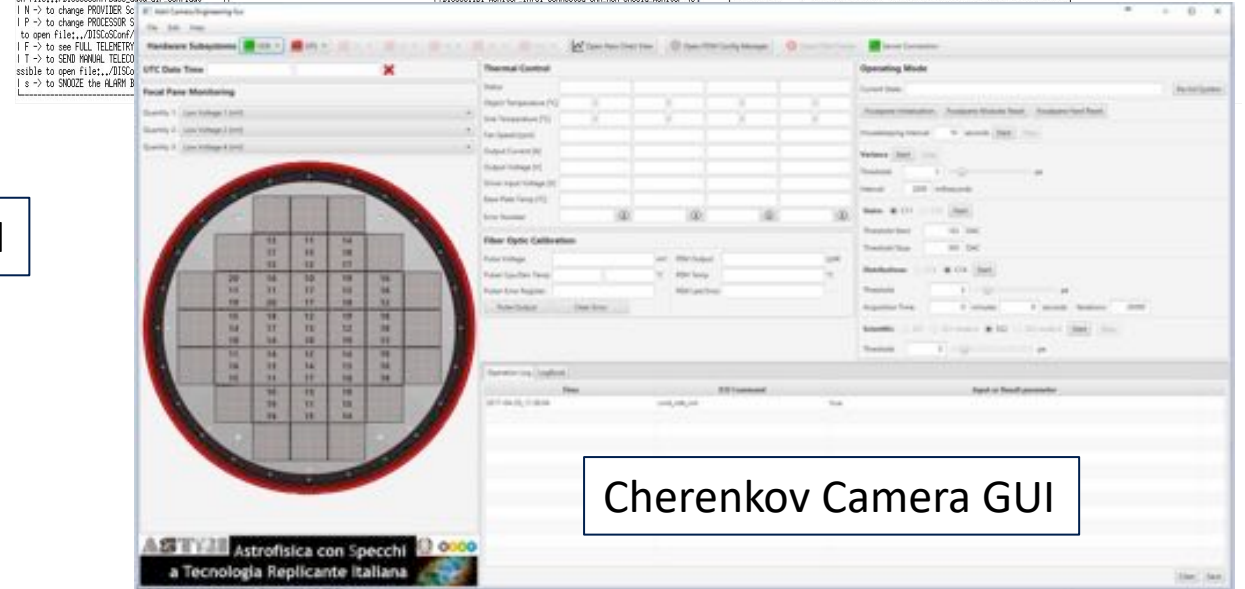
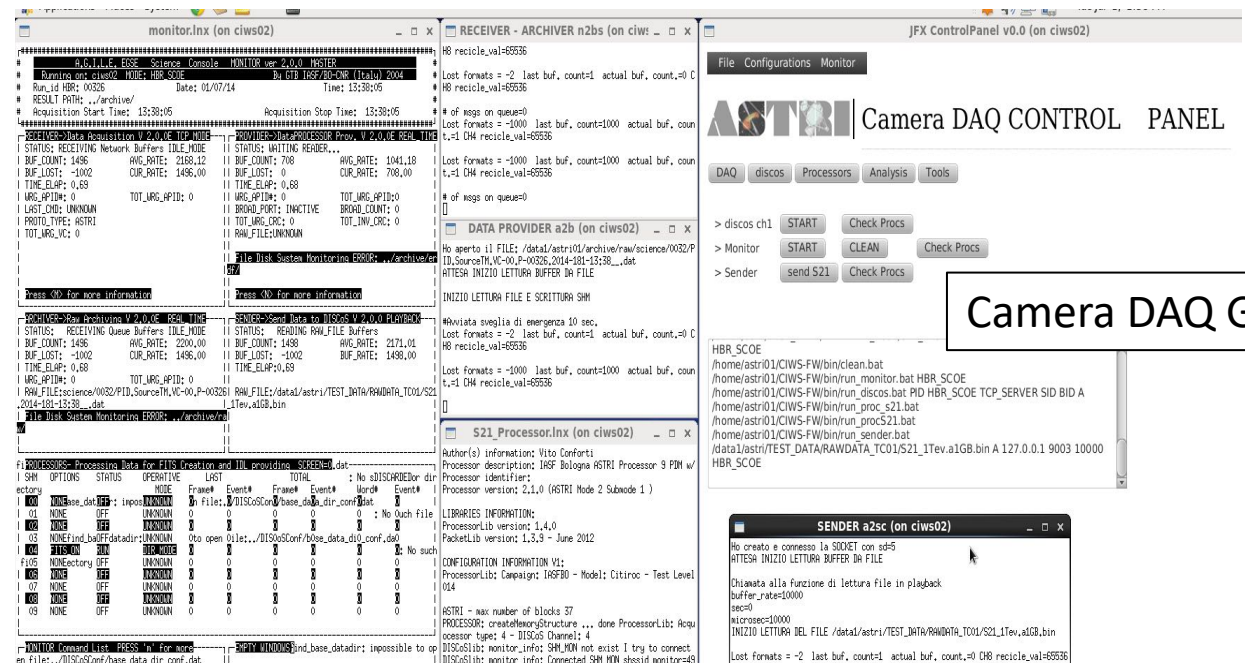
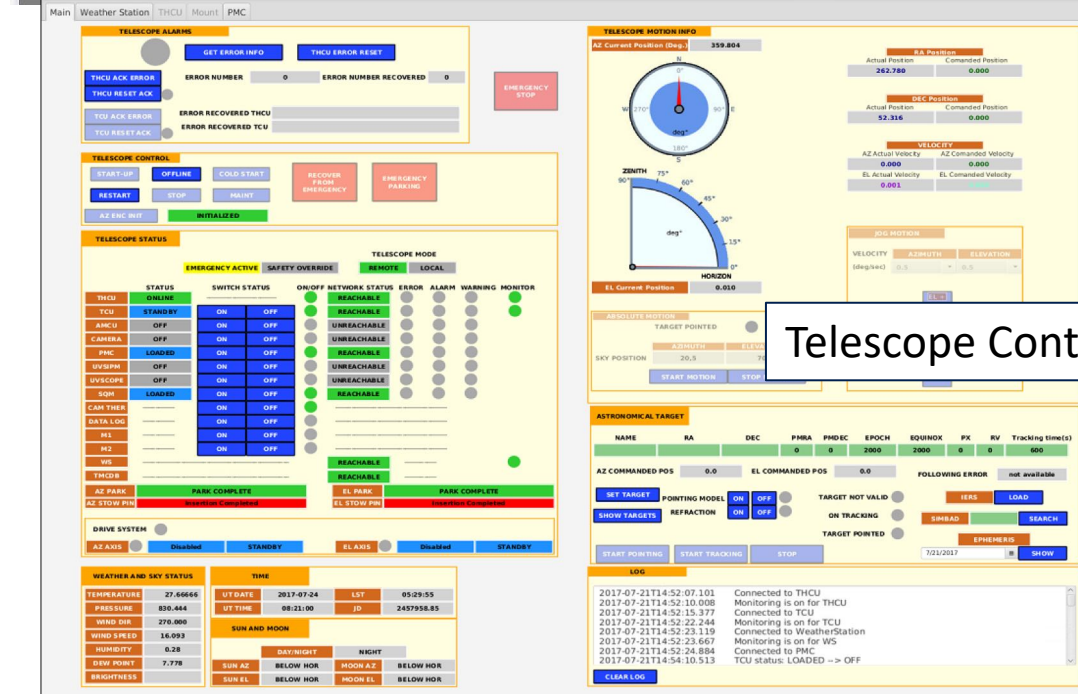
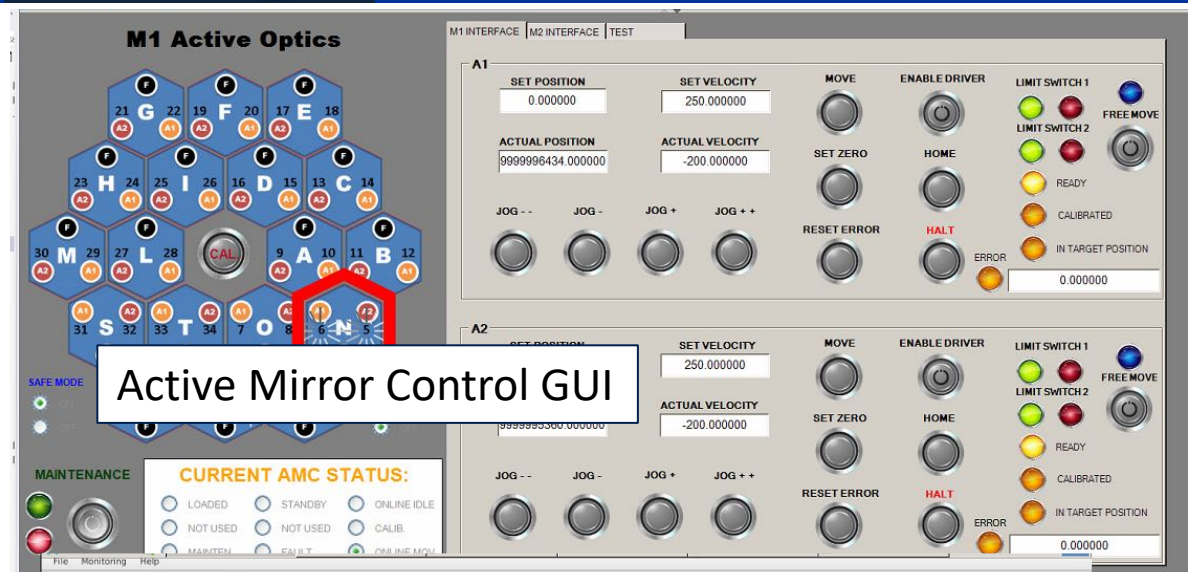
High-gain (HG) and low-gain (LG) peak detectors sample and hold the maximum amplitude of the slow shaped (SSH) signal (proportional to the injected charge in the pixel)



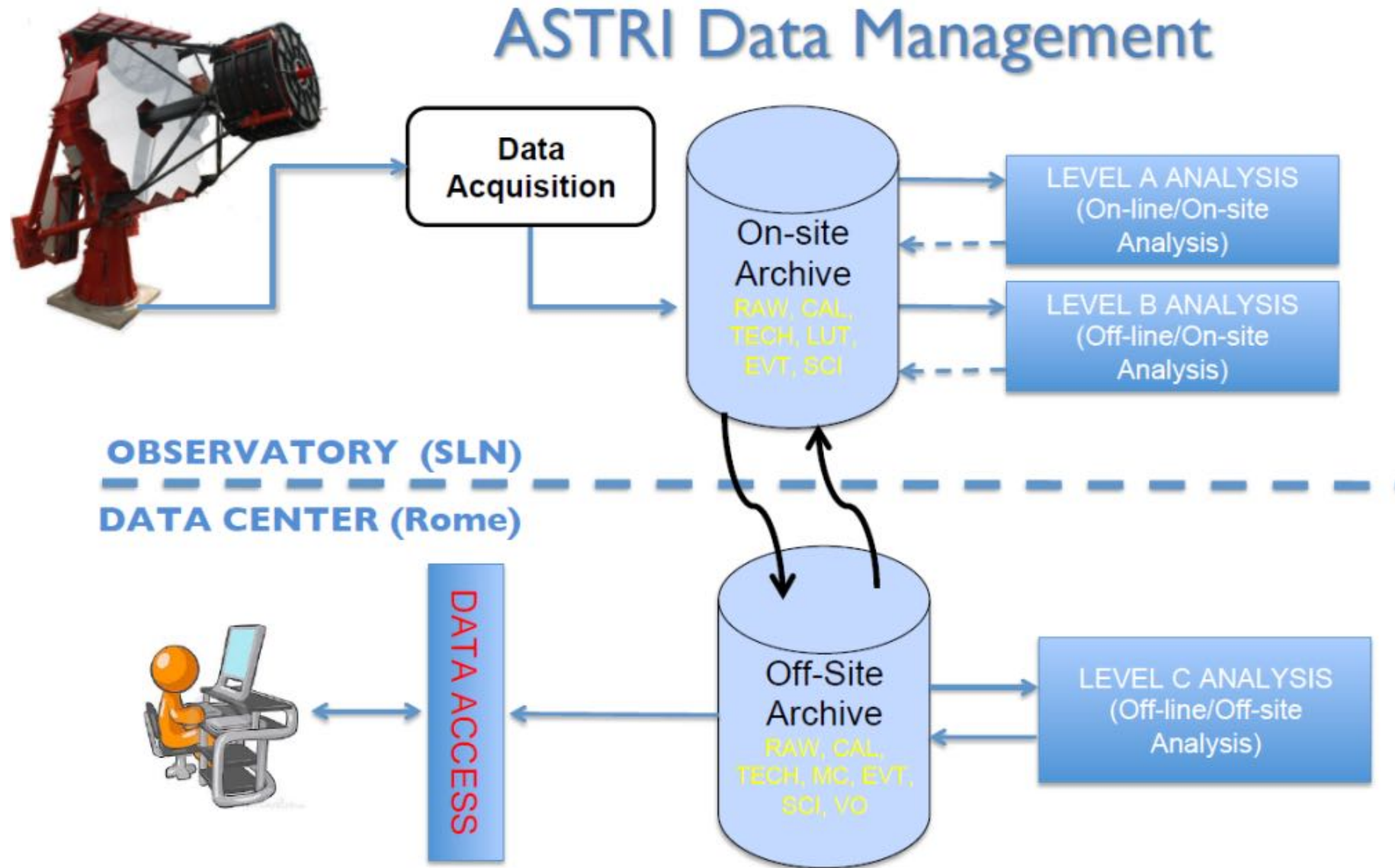
The digitized values together with pixel time stamp and SiPM temperature values are sent to BEE and then to camera server



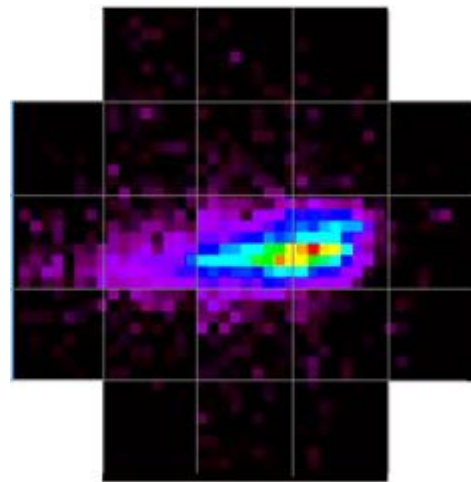




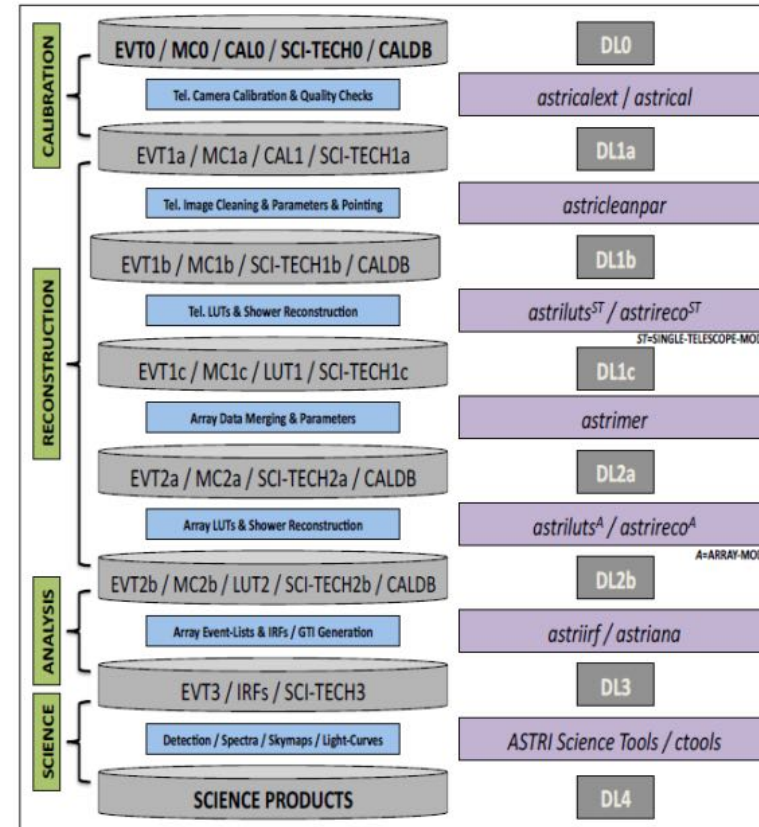




**A-SciSoft** is a dedicated software package for data reconstruction and scientific analysis. The software performs data reduction (from DL0 up to DL4) for **real-like ASTRI SST-2M prototype data**.



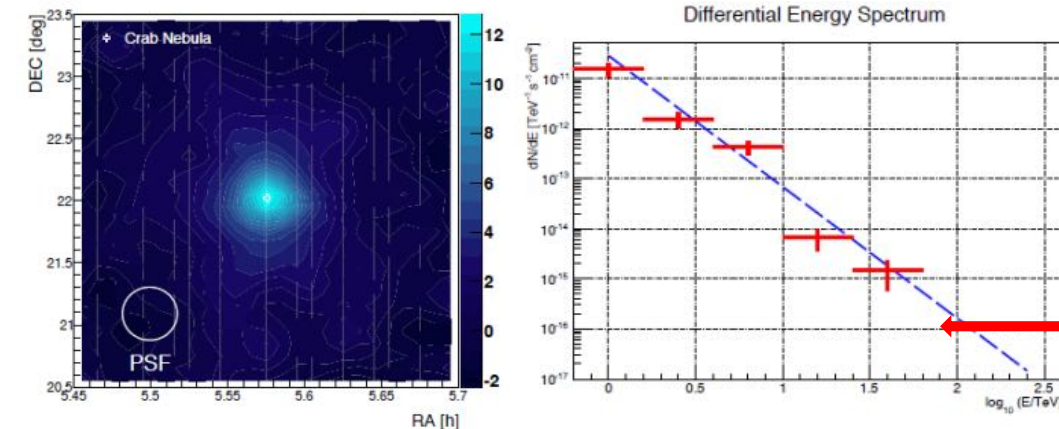
Raw Data



Breakdown stages; Basic components; Executable modules; I/O Data level.

## ASTRI Scientific Software

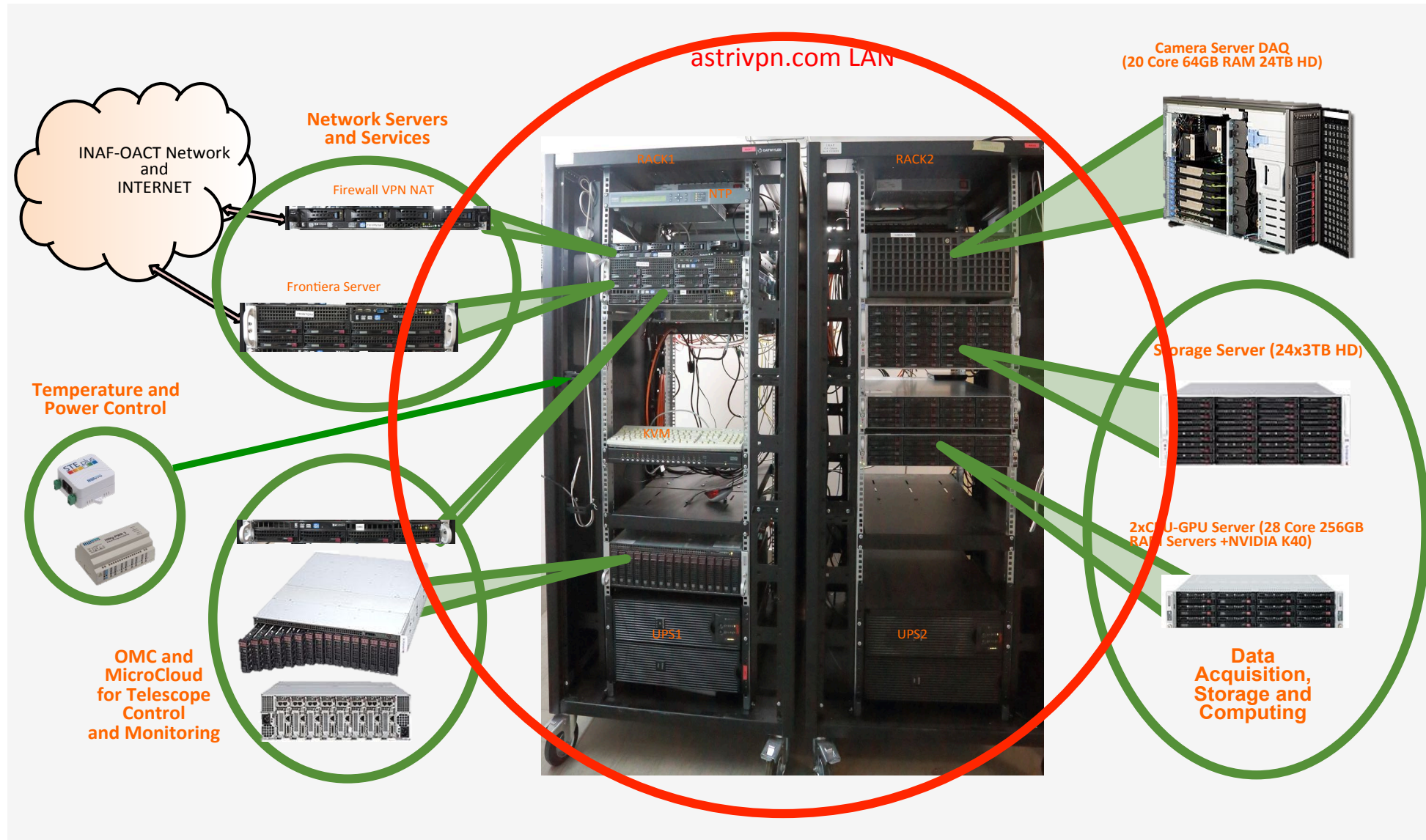
- ✧ can handle real and MC data for both prototype and mini-array
- ✧ follows the general CTA design and data model scheme defined in CTA Data Management
- ✧ is developed for on-line/on-site/off-site data reduction pipelines
- ✧ manages FITS data from DL0 to DL4 (*cfitsio/ccfits* libraries) (for mini-array, DL0 in RAW format)
- ✧ can run on x86 / ARM CPUs & NVIDIA GPUs
- ✧ is developed in independent software modules linked by pipelines written in Python
- ✧ uses CTA Science Tools



Science Products

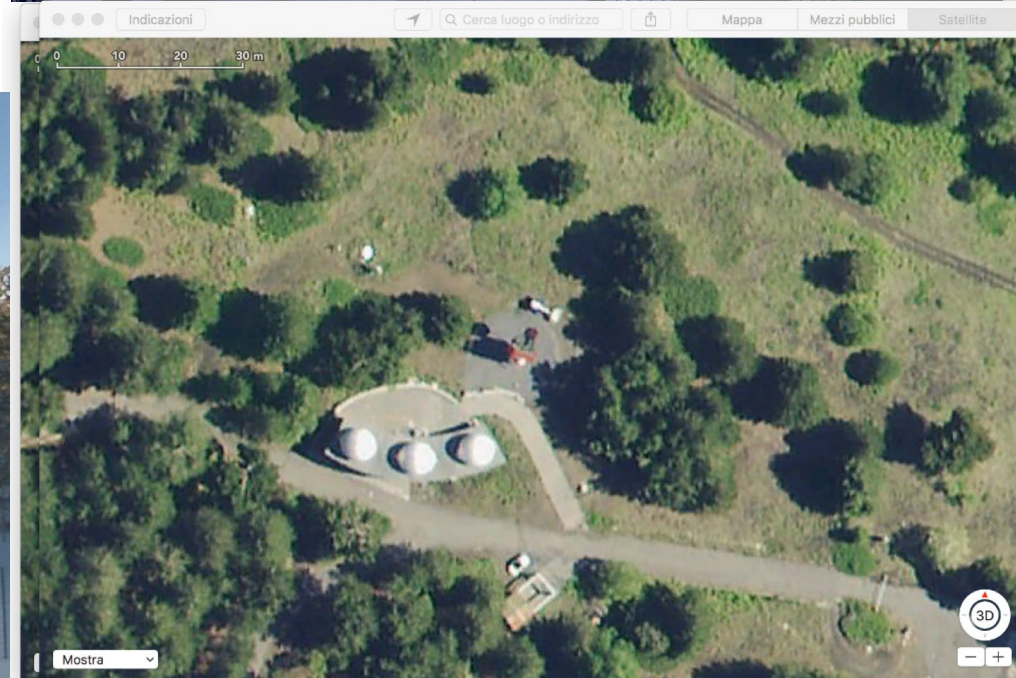


## ASTRI-SST-2M ICT overall schema



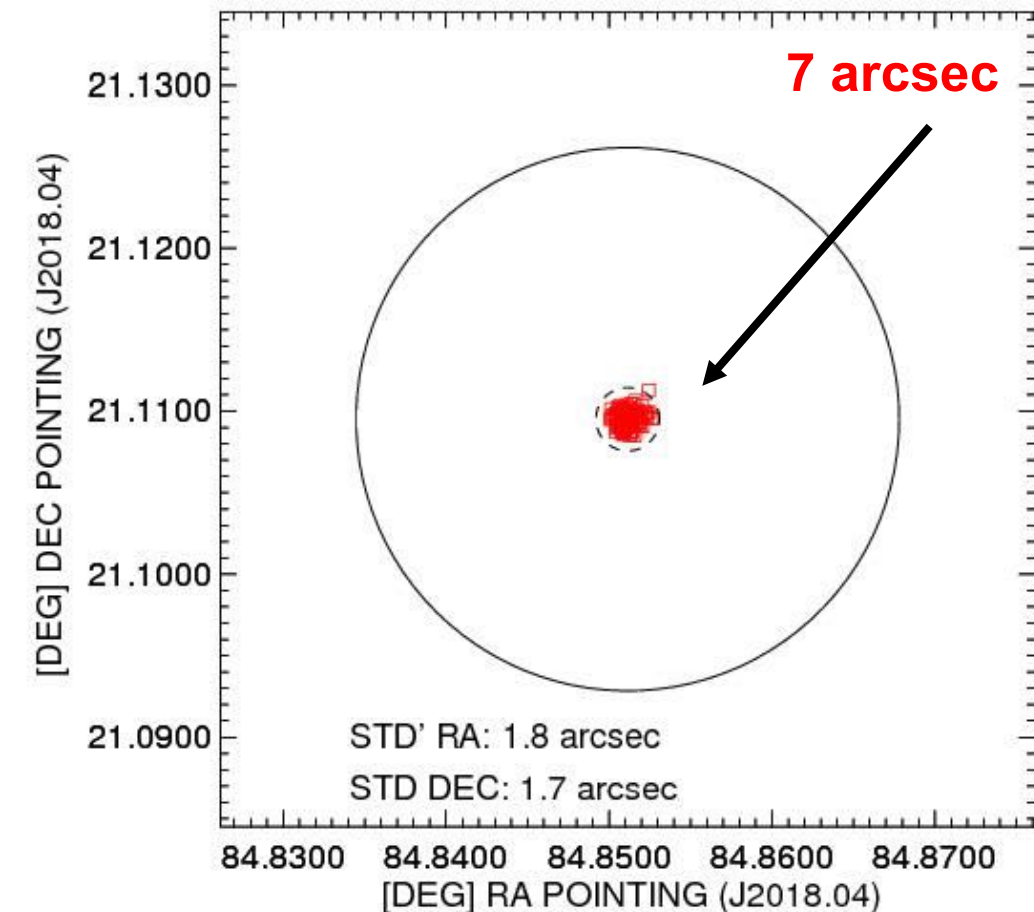


The prototype is placed at 1725 meters on the Etna volcano @ INAF-Catania mountain station in Serra La Nave





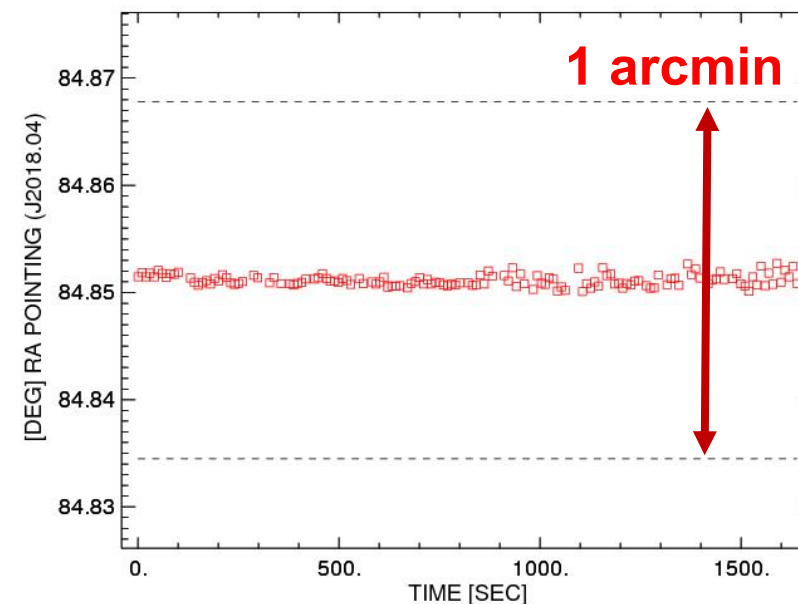
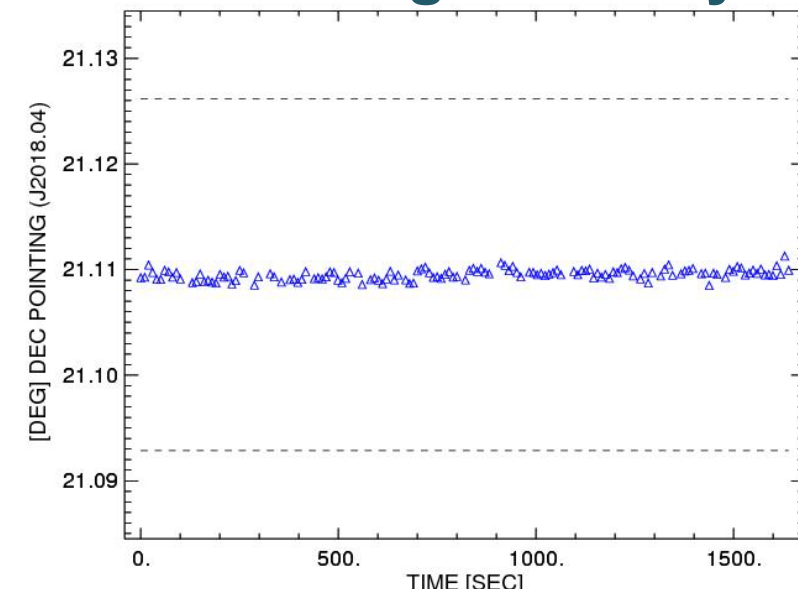
## Pointing accuracy



Pointing & tracking performance was measured using a small CCD camera mounted on the M2 support structure.



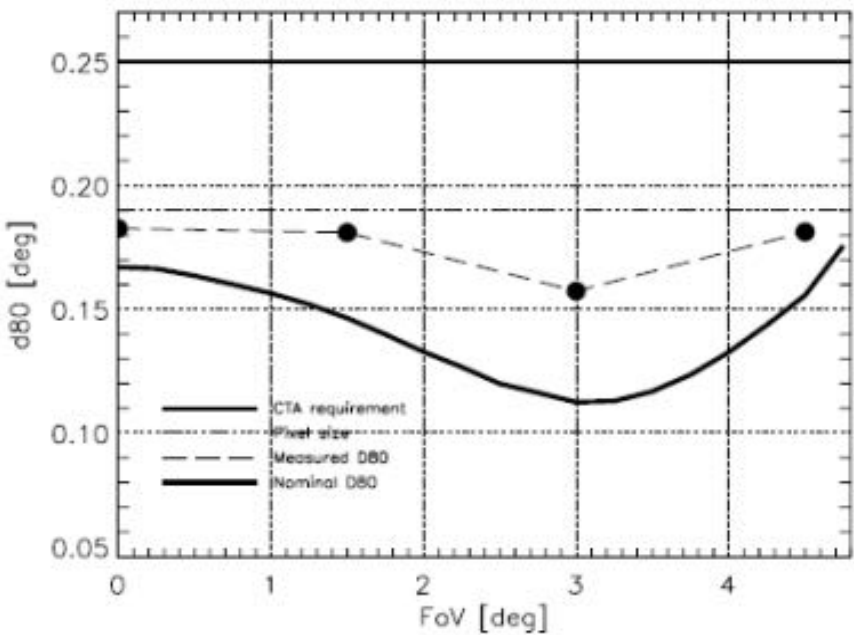
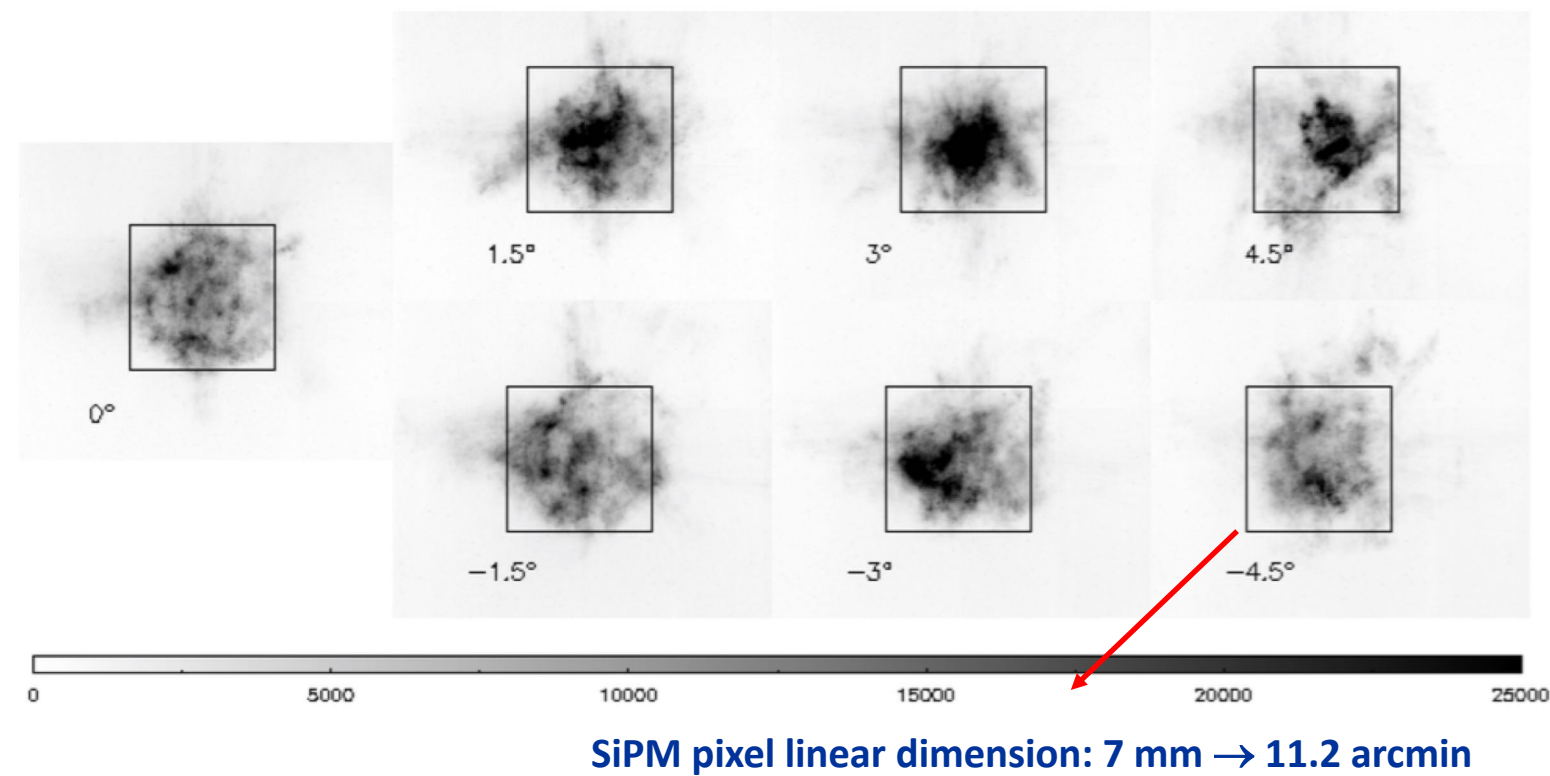
## Tracking accuracy



- CTA post calibration astrometric accuracy: 7 arcsec
- CTA online astrometric accuracy: 1 arcmin

## First optical validation of a Schwarzschild Couder telescope: the ASTRI SST-2M Cherenkov telescope

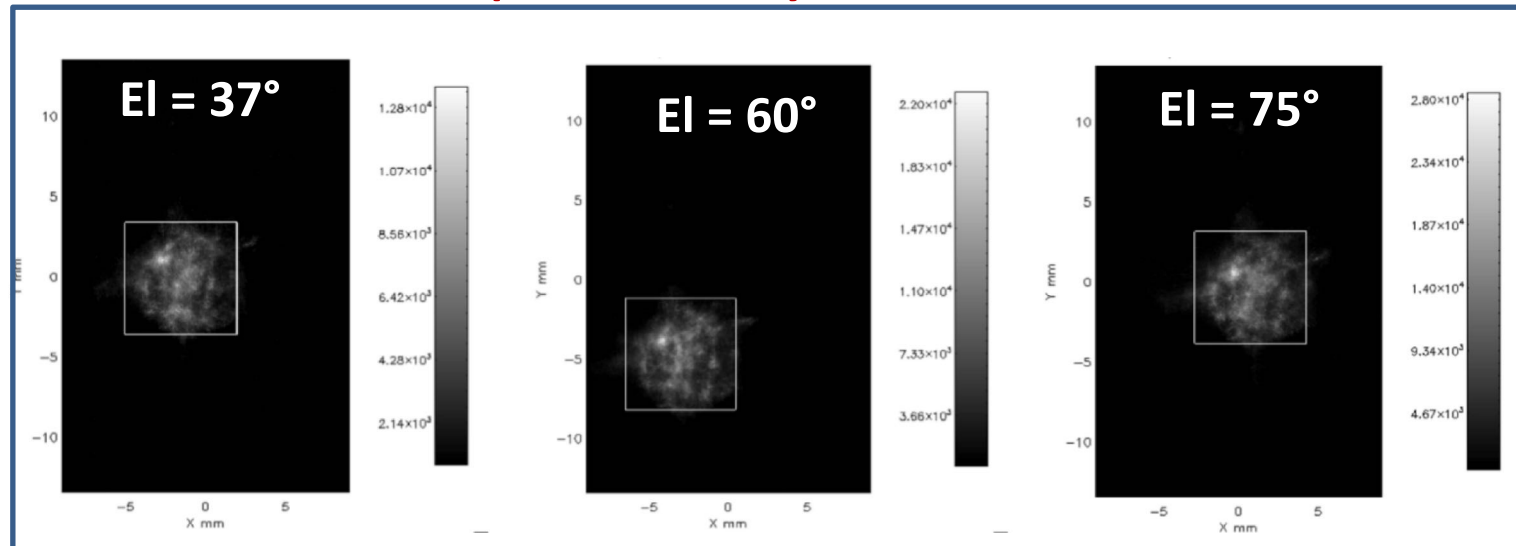
E. Giro<sup>1,2</sup>, R. Canestrari<sup>2</sup>, G. Sironi<sup>2</sup>, E. Antolini<sup>3</sup>, P. Conconi<sup>2</sup>, C.E. Fermino<sup>4</sup>, C. Gargano<sup>5</sup>, G. Rodeghiero<sup>1,6</sup>, F. Russo<sup>7</sup>, S. Scuderi<sup>8</sup>, G. Tosti<sup>3</sup>, V. Vassiliev<sup>9</sup>, and G. Pareschi<sup>2</sup>



FoV position (deg)	D80 (mm)
4.5	6.72
3.0	6.32
1.5	7.28
0.0	6.86
-1.5	6.32
-3.0	5.50
-4.5	6.90



## Spatial Stability

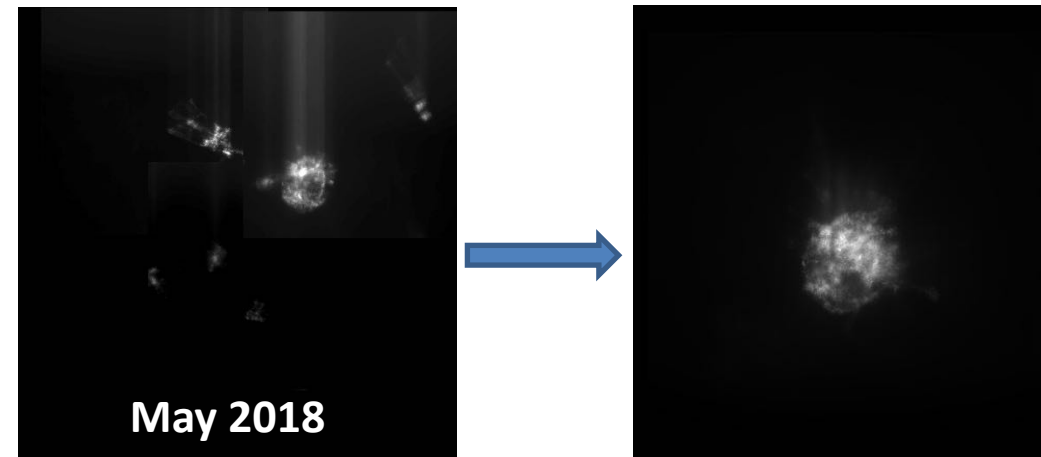
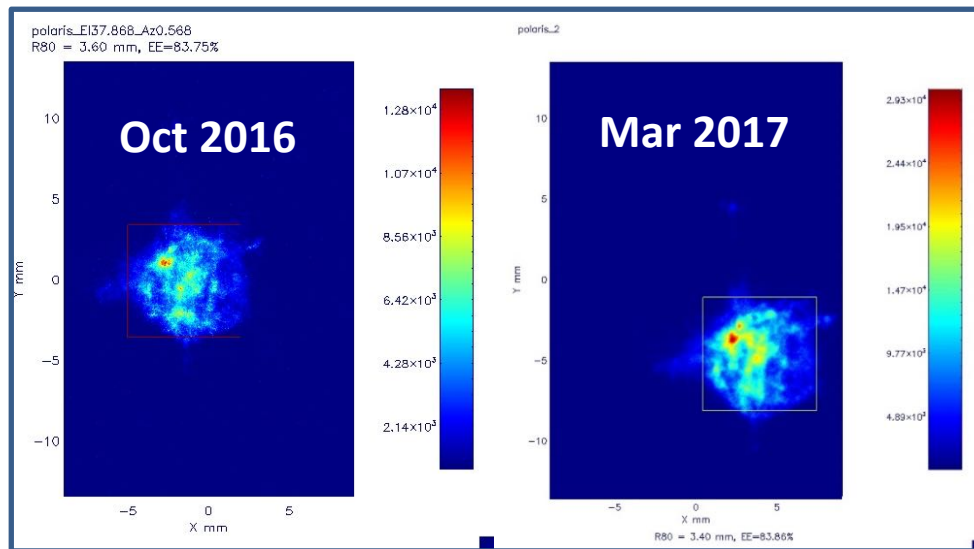


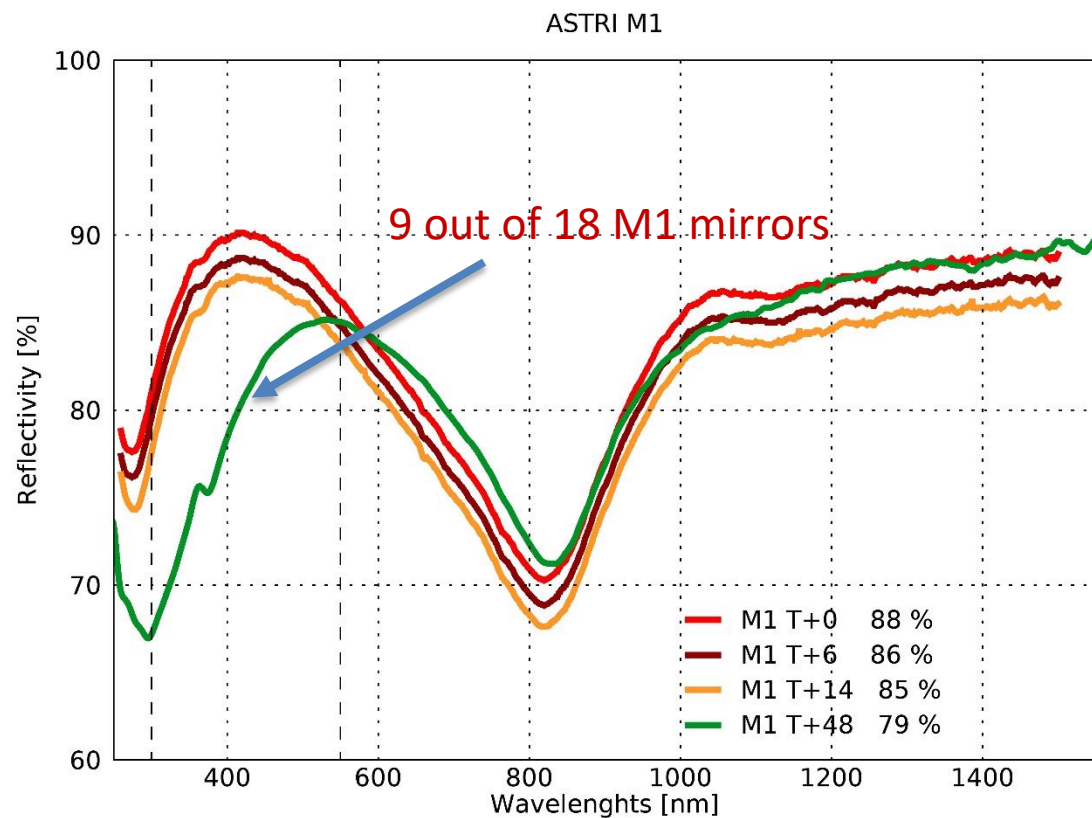
- Acquisition of PSF for different elevations have been obtained.
- Acquisition of PSF were obtained 6 months apart.

The PSF shows excellent stability both in morphology and d80 values.

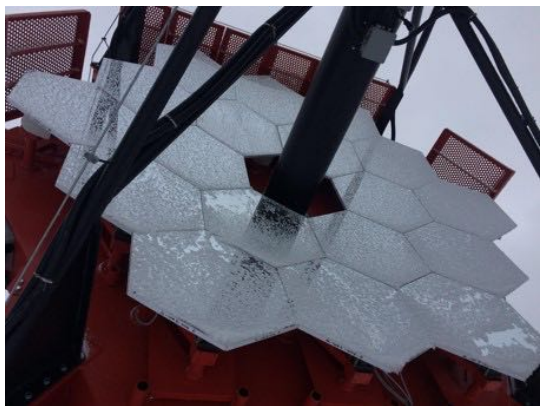
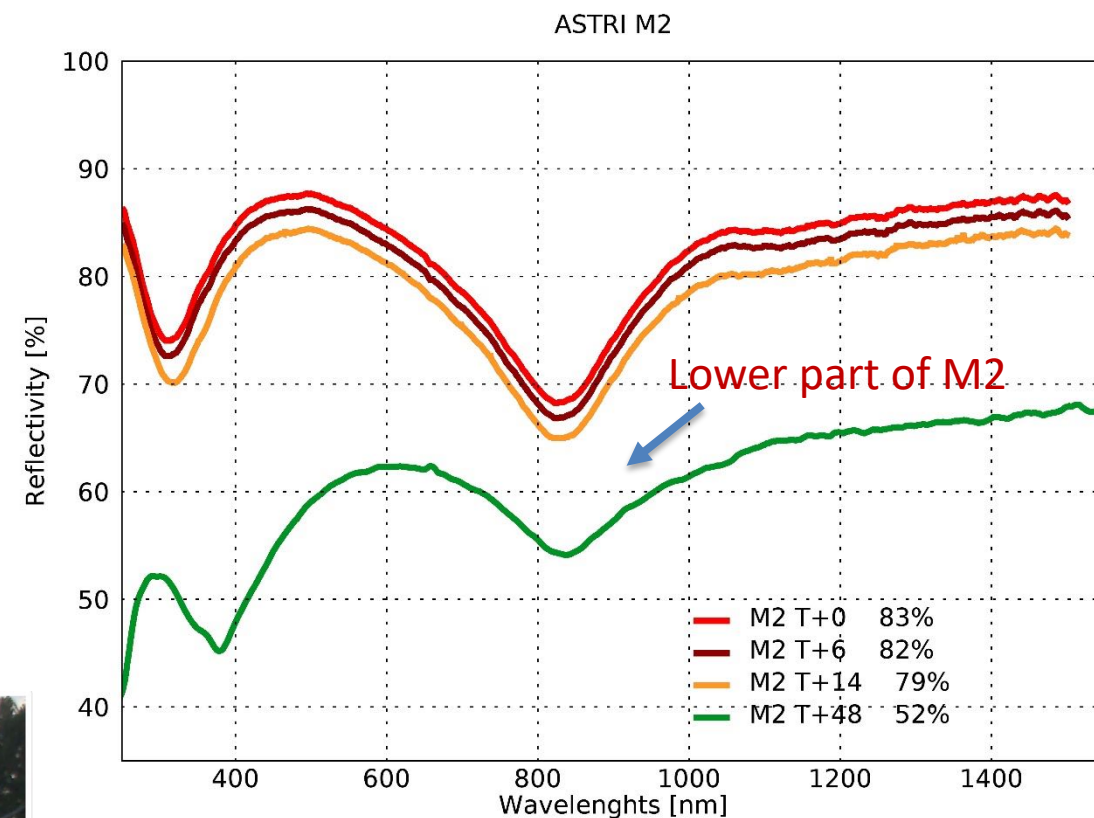
**No active mirror control is necessary for normal operations → Tool for Assembly, Integration, Validation (AIV) and maintenance activities**

## Temporal Stability





## Last run of measurements February 2018

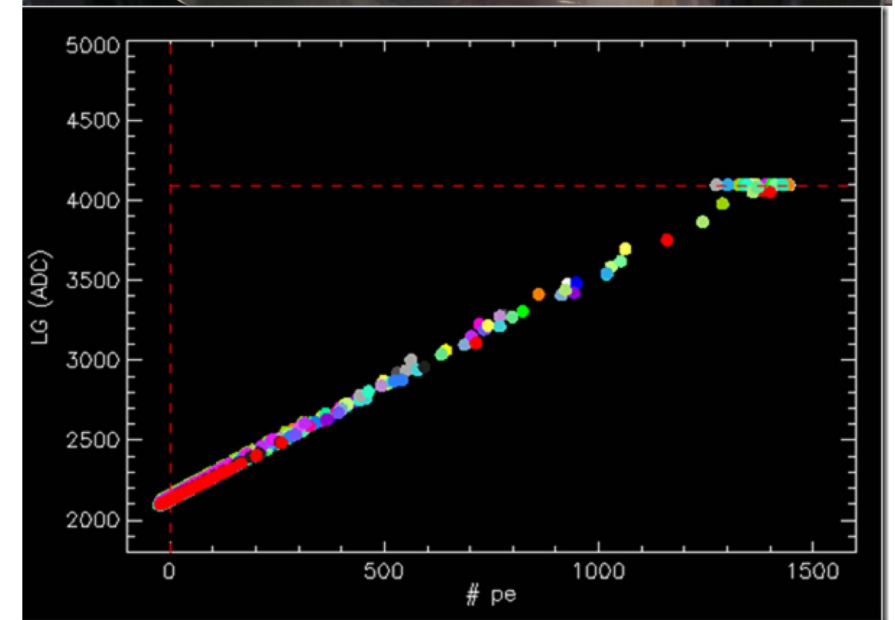
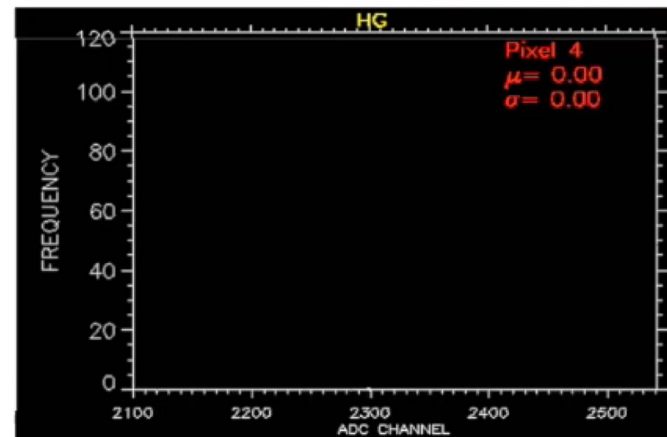
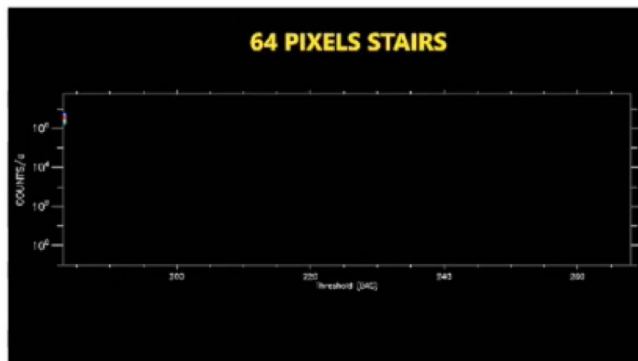
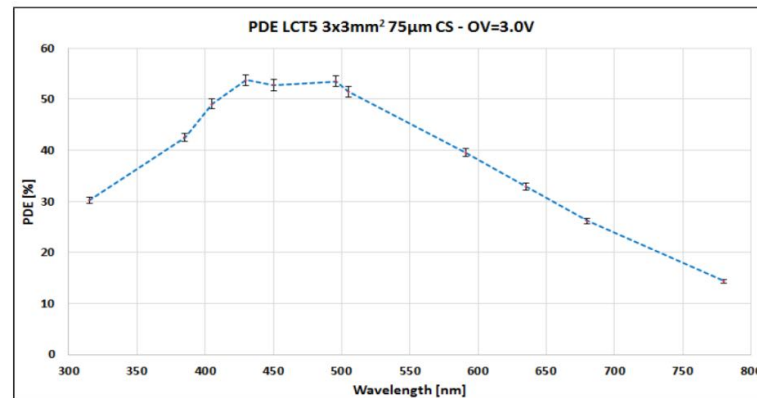
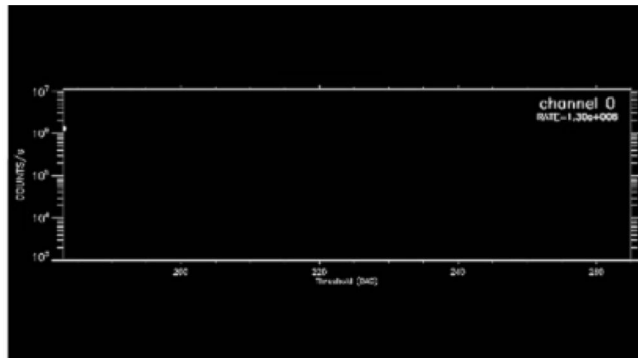
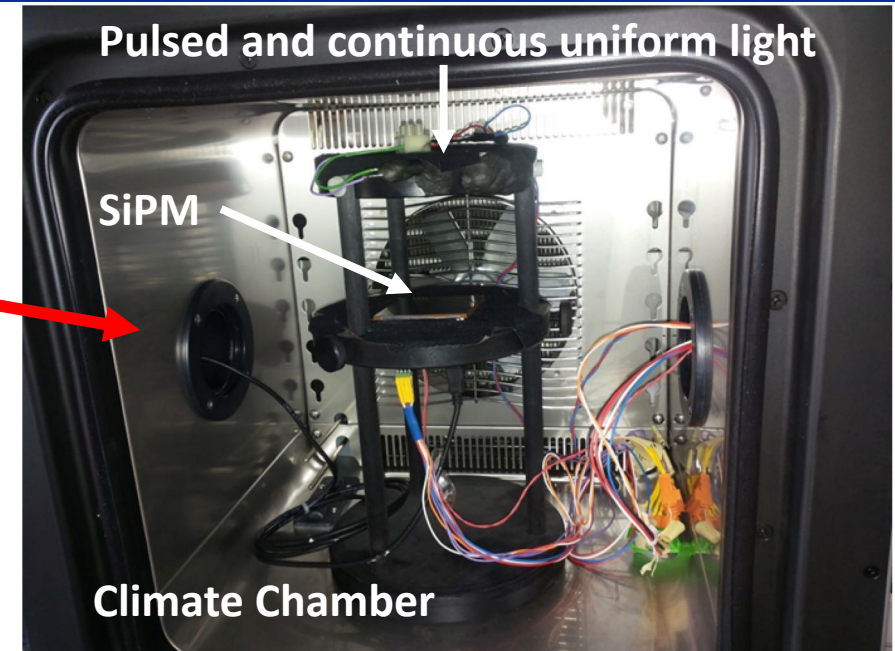


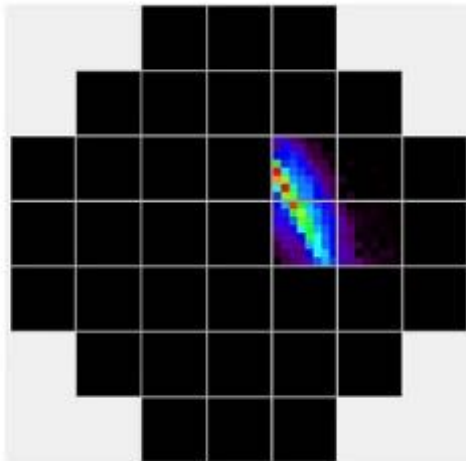
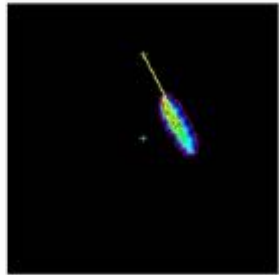
**Ageing faster than expected likely due to aggressive atmosphere (mount Etna is an active volcano)**



- Trigger alignment within  $\pm 1/20$  pe equivalent
- Relative gain calibration
- Photoelectron equivalent
- Dynamical range up to 1350 pe
- Photo Detection Efficiency & Optical Cross Talk

## Lab Setup






**25<sup>th</sup> of May 2017**

**First Cherenkov light with the ASTRI camera**

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## Press Release

# CTA Prototype Telescope, ASTRI, Achieves First Light

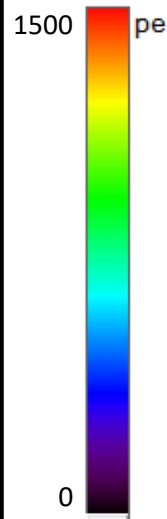
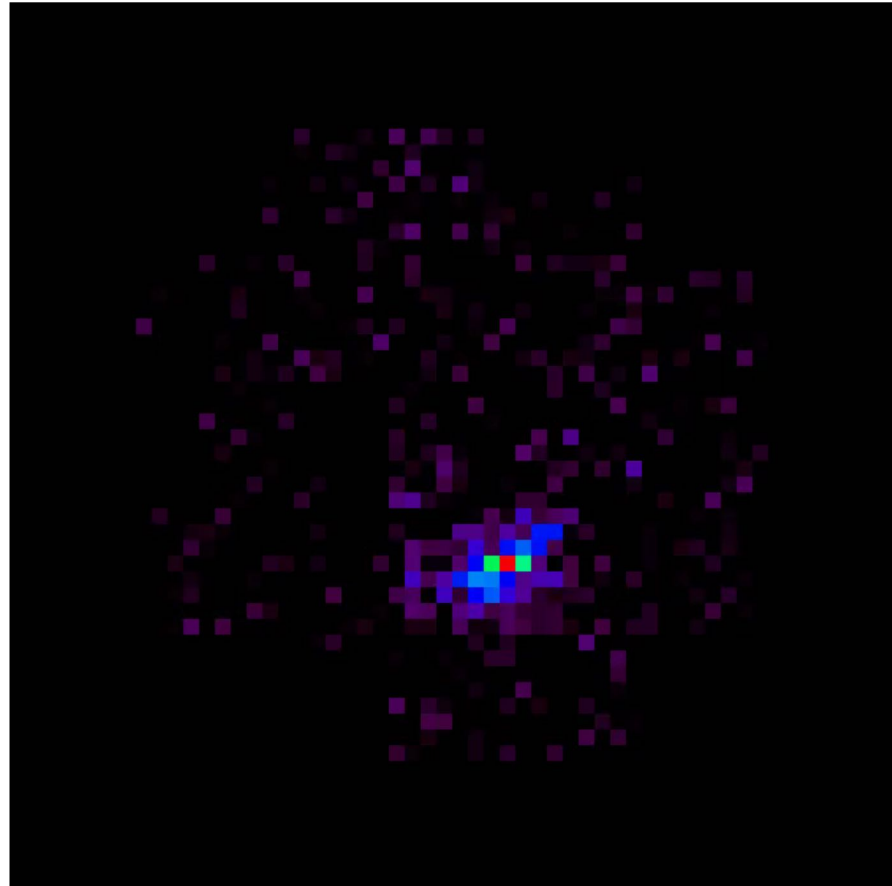
[Download full release: 2 MB / PDF](#)



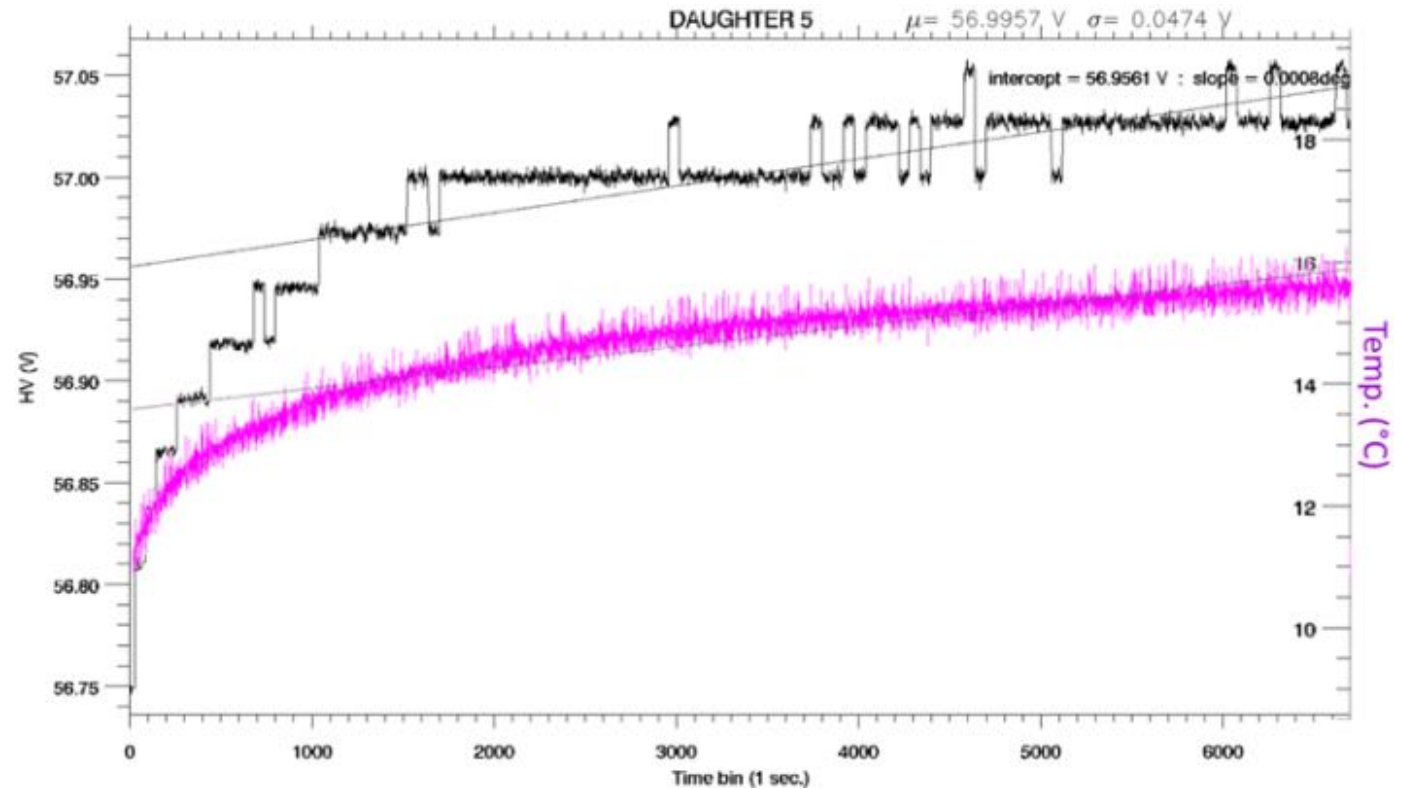
During the nights of 25 and 26 May, the camera of the ASTRI telescope prototype (pictured to the left) recorded its first ever Cherenkov light while undergoing testing at the astronomical site of Serra La Nave (Mount Etna) in Sicily managed by INAF-Catania. This comes not long after its optical validation was achieved in November 2016 ([read story here](#)). This accomplishment was the first optical demonstration for astronomical telescopes using the novel Schwarzschild Couder dual-mirror design. The ASTRI telescope is a proposed Small-Sized Telescope design for the Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA).

Although the camera was not fully configured, the ASTRI team was still able to capture its first Cherenkov light and produce beautiful images of the showers generated by cosmic rays in the Earth's atmosphere. The image below shows one of the events captured by the team. This information will allow scientists to reconstruct the direction of gamma-ray photons emitted from celestial sources (indicated by the yellow line on the image on the left). The camera is based on novel SiPM small pixel sensors (7 mm x 7 mm) and CITIROC ASICS peak-finder front-end electronics. The camera was specifically designed to fit on the dual mirror ASTRI telescopes for covering a large field of view of 10° x 10°.

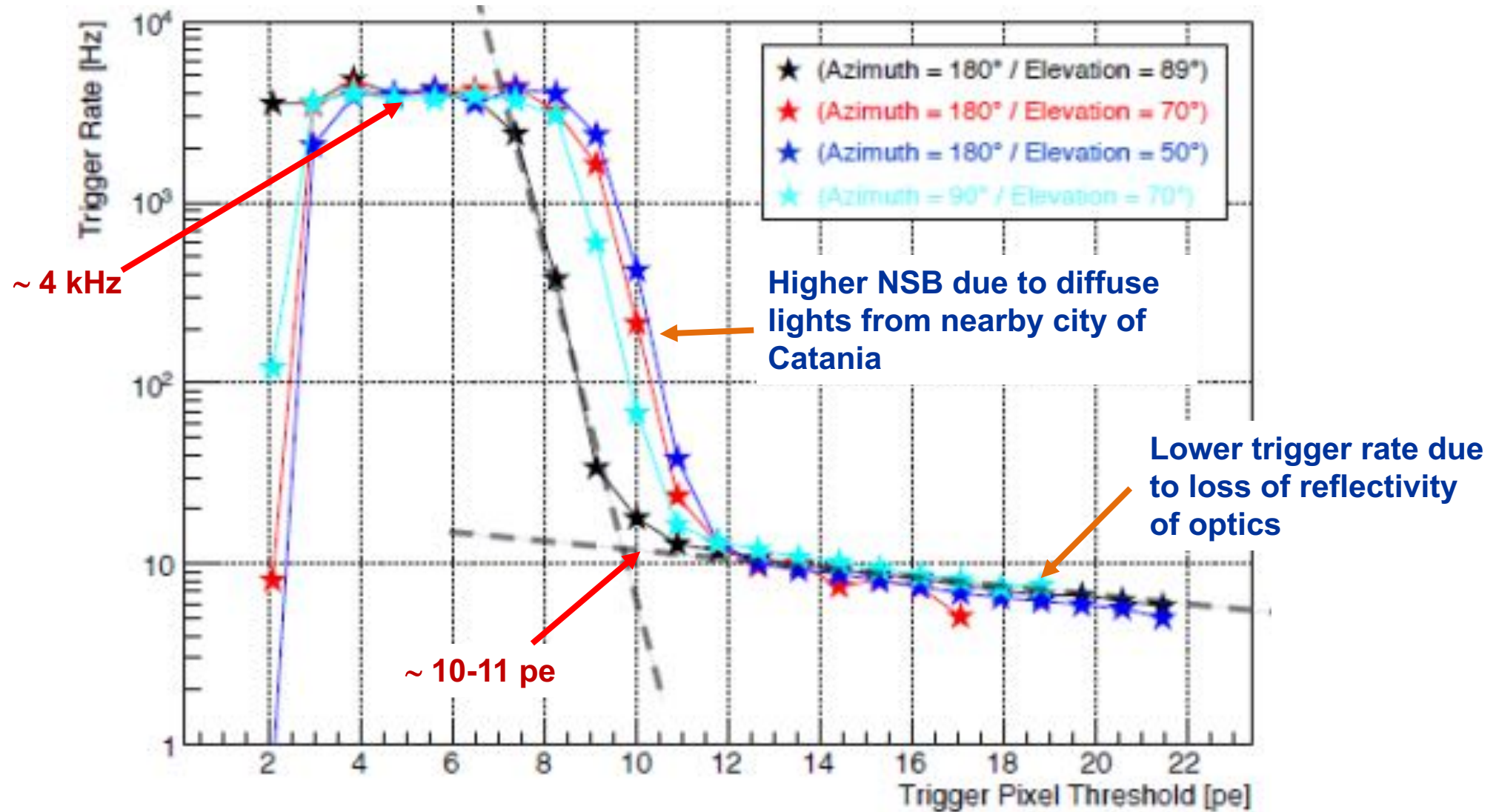




- Runs in December, January, February & March bad weather, May, June
- Technical calibrations (lots) and scientific observations (very few up to now) on going

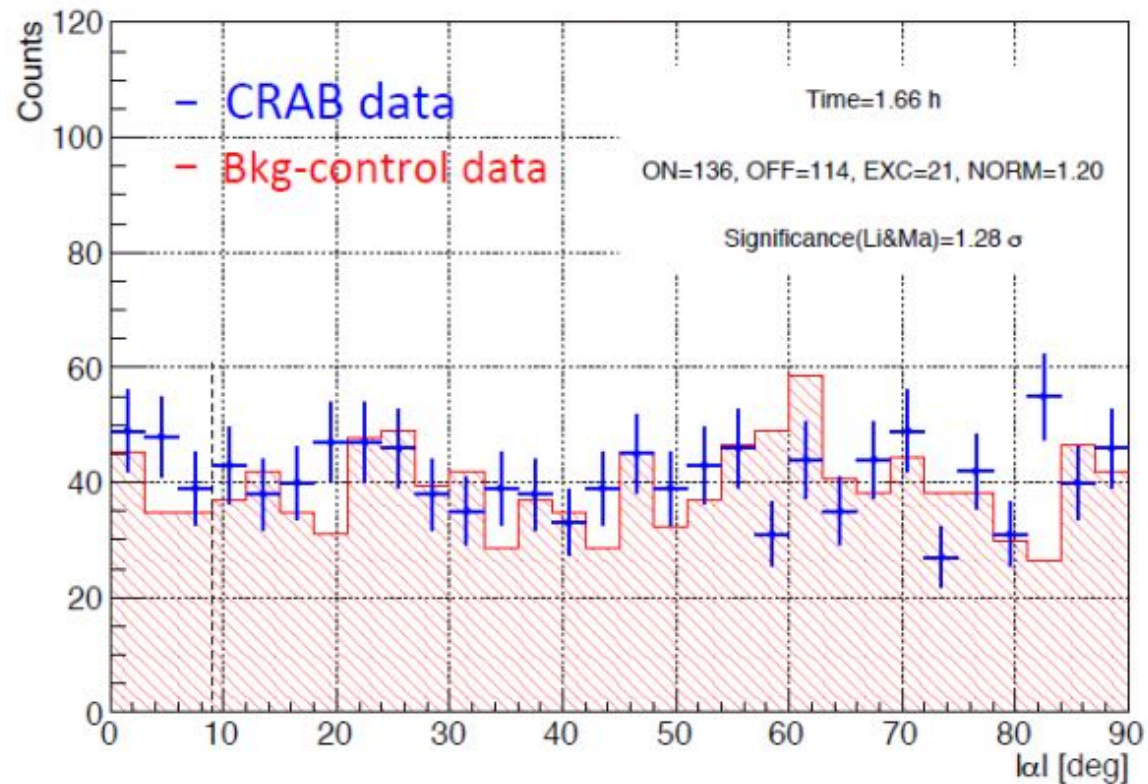


## Trigger rate vs Trigger threshold

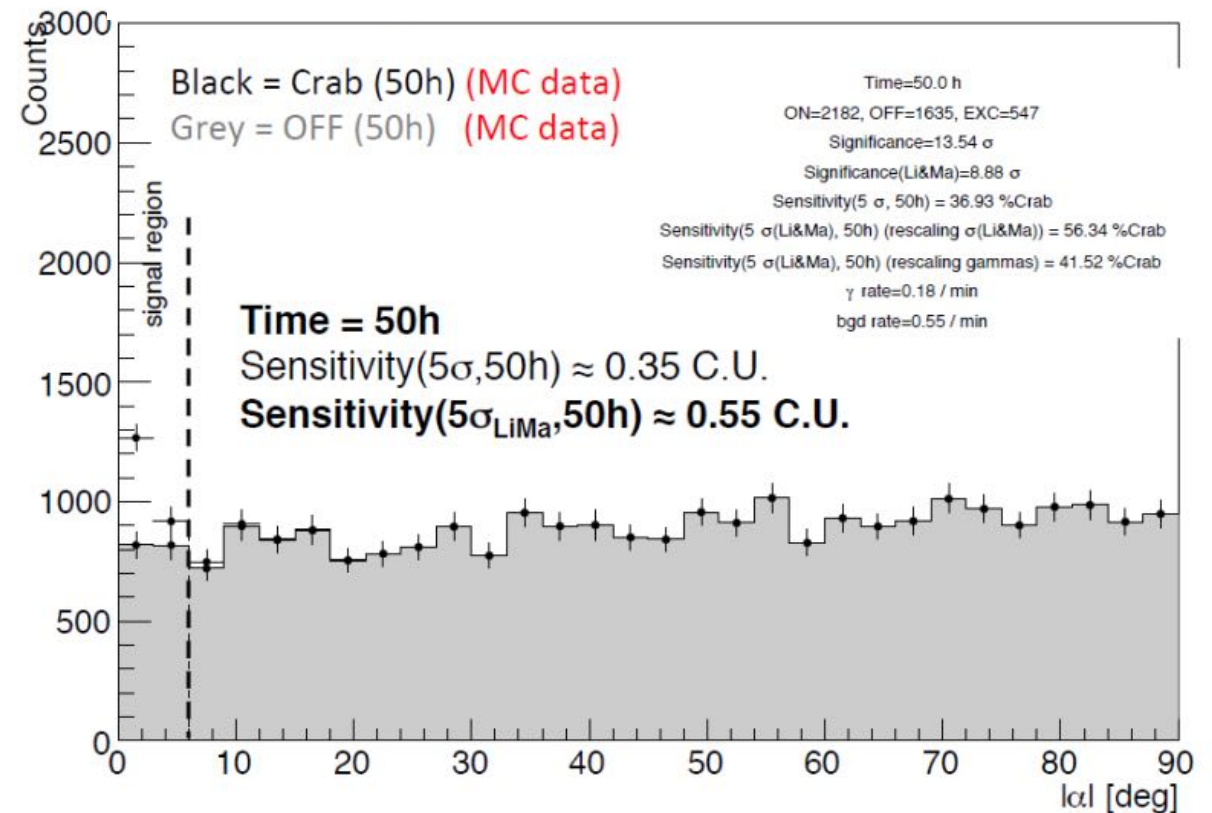




## Real Data

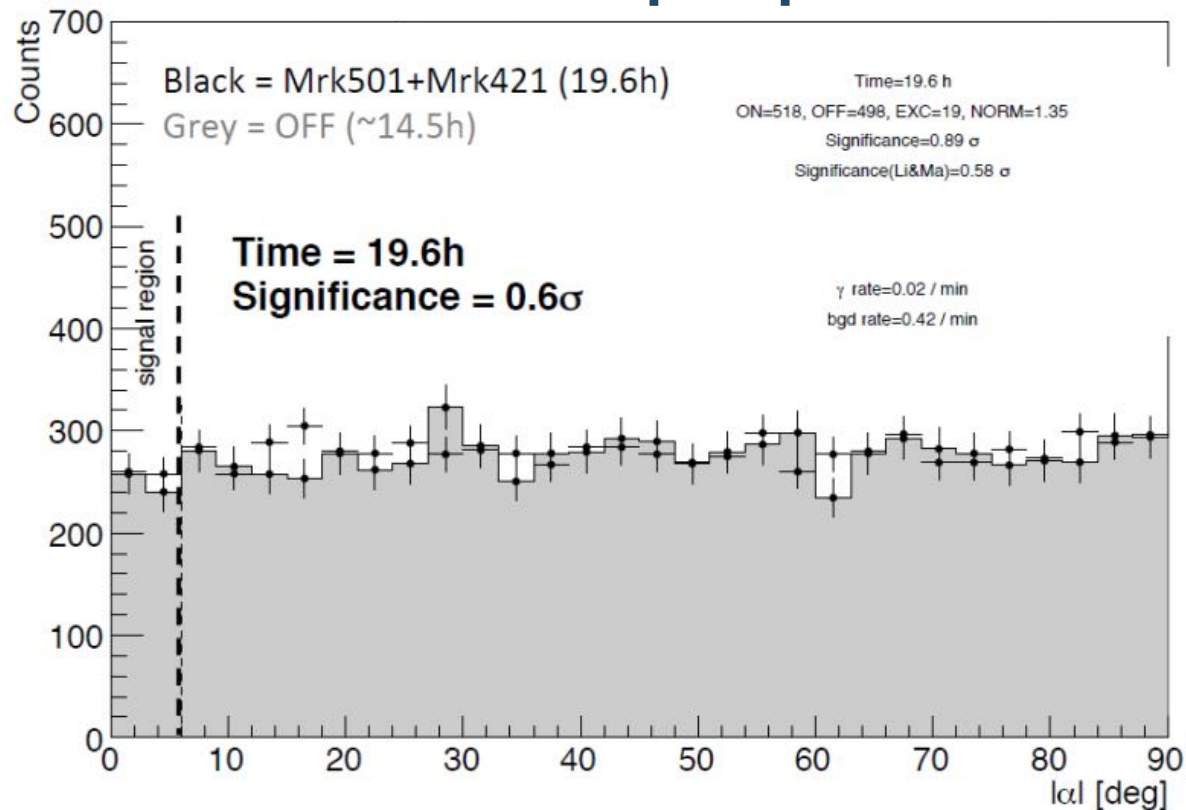


## MC simulations



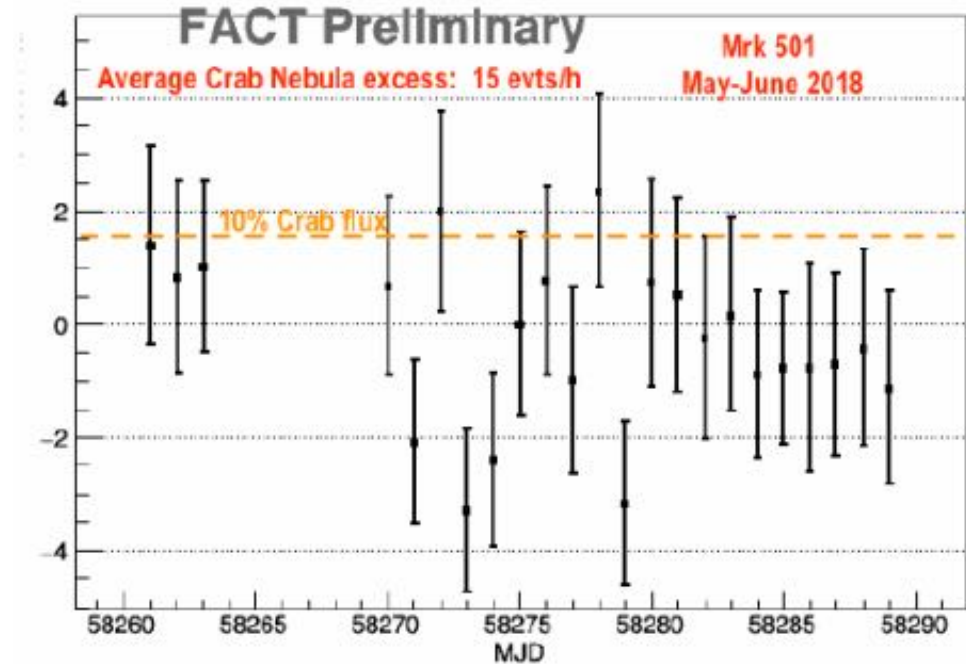
- Crab not detected after 1.66 hours of observations
- Due to low efficiency of optics 5 sigma detection of Crab in 15 h
- Not yet validated MC simulations available

## Detection alpha plot



## Mrk501

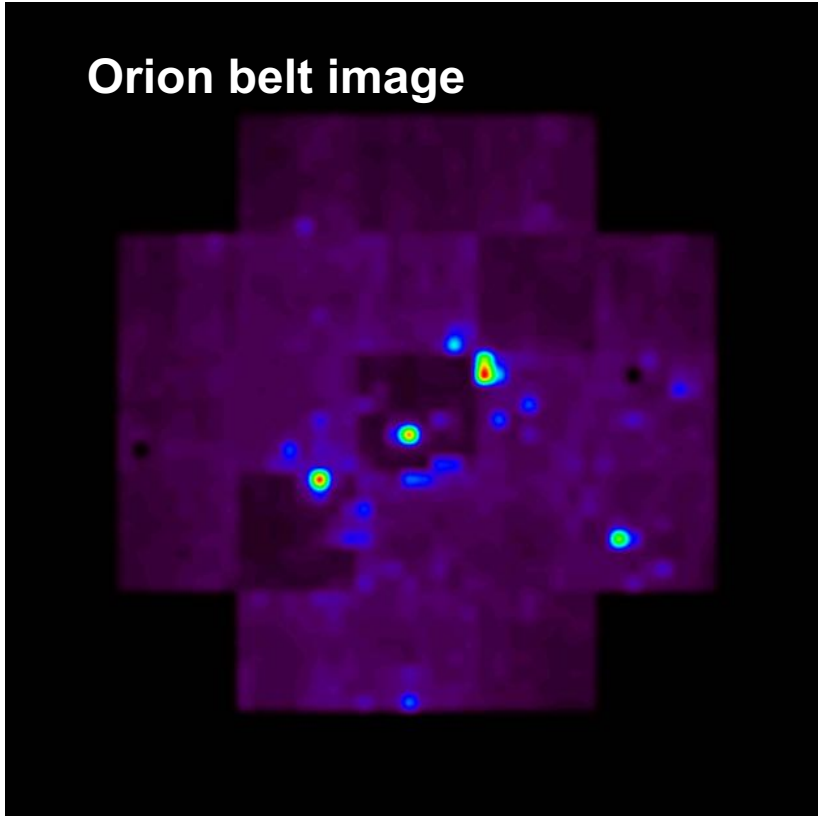
Excess Rate vs MJD



Flux too low ( $\leq 0.1$  Crab) to be detected



Orion belt image

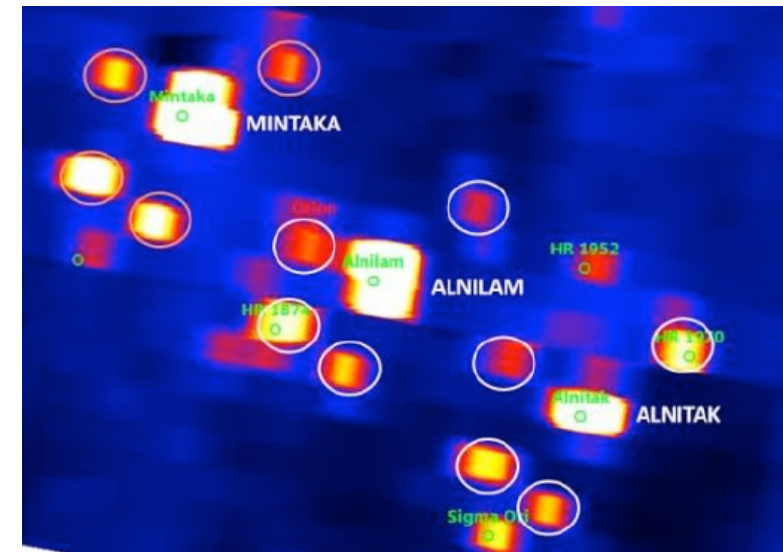
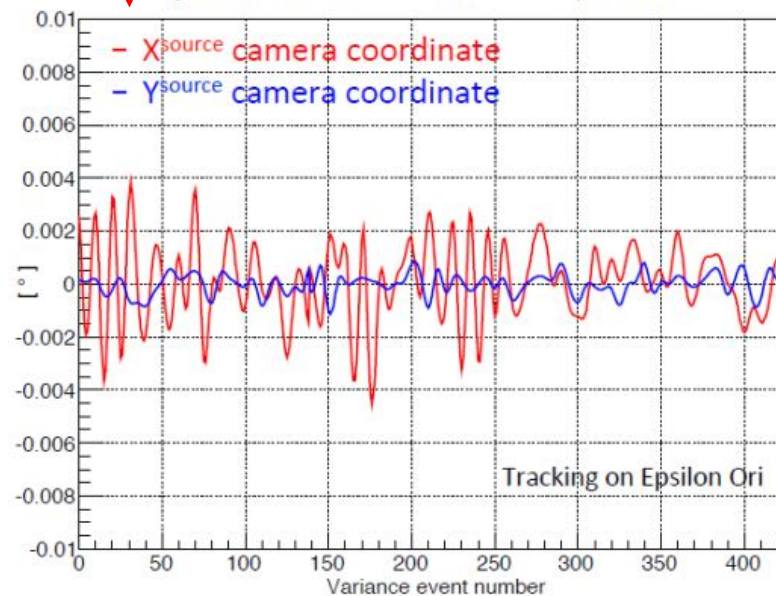


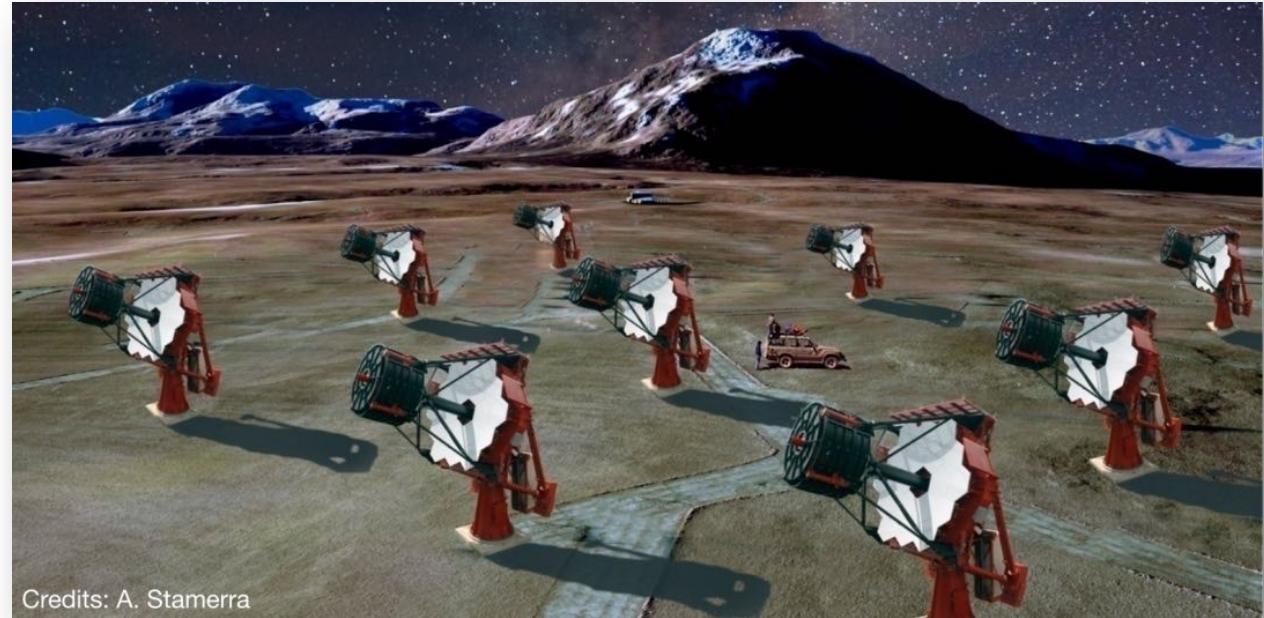
The electric signal generated by each pixel not triggered is continuously sampled and the variance of the sequence of ADC values is proportional to the photon flux.

The acquisition of the variance data is done in parallel with the normal Cherenkov data acquisition

- Measurement of Night Sky Background (NSB)
- Monitoring of the mirrors optical alignment
- Monitoring of telescope pointing accuracy

Epsilon Ori's reconstructed position





## Implementation of a mini-array of 9 ASTRI SST-2M

- 9 ASTRI telescope & cameras + 1 spare camera (procurement via industrial contracts started)
- End to end: validation and commissioning of the array (including trigger and SW) through Cherenkov astronomical observations
- Commitment with the Italian government and international partners to build it
- Funds: dedicated funding outside the 50 M€ of the Italian contribution to CTA
- Site: hopefully CTA-south but in case other locations possible
- Timeline: 3 years to have the first complete telescope at the site



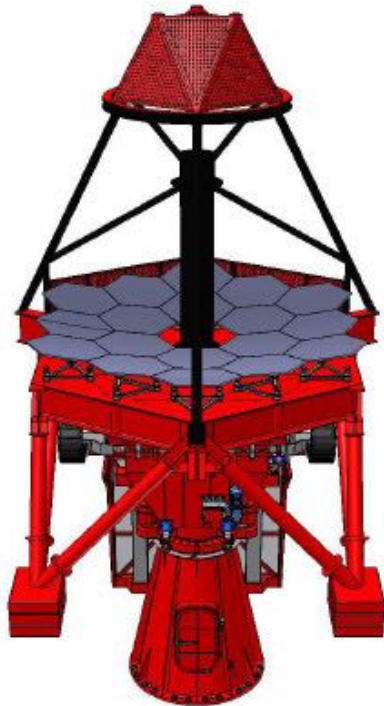
## Procurement through industrial contracts

- Specs starting from CTA requirements
- Qualification phase of products
- Quality control and acceptance procedures → Industrial standards
- Manufacture started from low risk (design consolidated) components → Mirrors & ASICs
- **Structures**
  - Tender for 3 structures assigned and consolidation phase almost completed
  - **Construction will start in autumn**
  - Tender for further structures to be issued
- **Optics**
  - Production of M1 (10 ASTRI & 2 MST) started in September 2017 → 1/3 ready
  - Production of 10 M2 substrates completed in December 2017, coating started
- **Camera Assembly**
  - Production of ASICs (CITIROC1A) started in March 2018 → ½ ready
  - Tender for SiPM to be issued
  - Tender Camera (mechanics, electronics, thermal) to be issued

**Prototype**

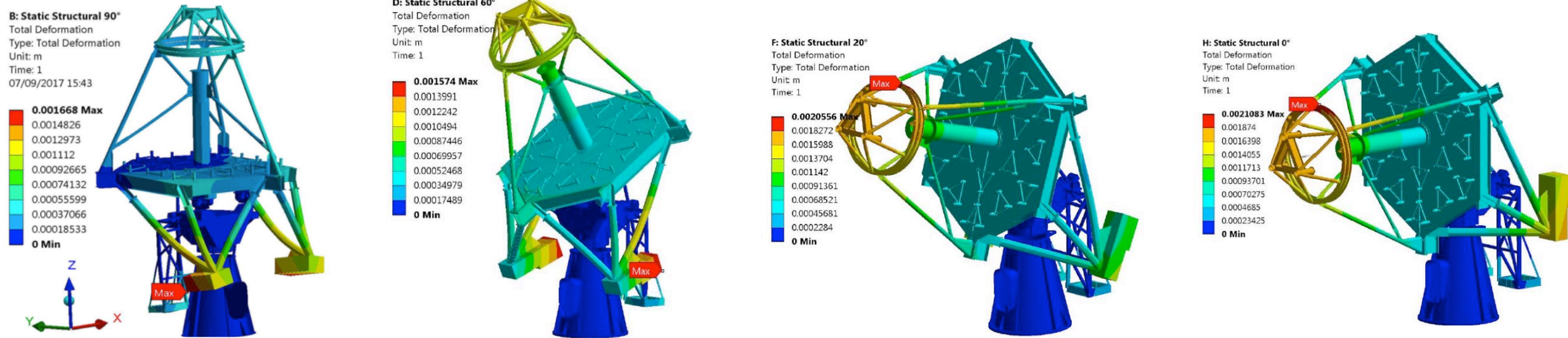


**Pre-production**



- **Mass reduction (25%)**
  - Design consolidation of the dish and secondary support to maintain the same stiffness lowering telescope weight
  - M2 support structure modified
  - Mast structure with only three legs
  - Dish rotated for an easier integration and realized with commercial parts
- **Active Mirror Control (AMC) simplification**
  - No need for AMC during scientific acquisition
  - No need refocusing telescope during operations
  - AMC radially mounted for an easier mirrors integration
  - AMC mounted only during AIV phase and for maintenance purposes





## FEA model

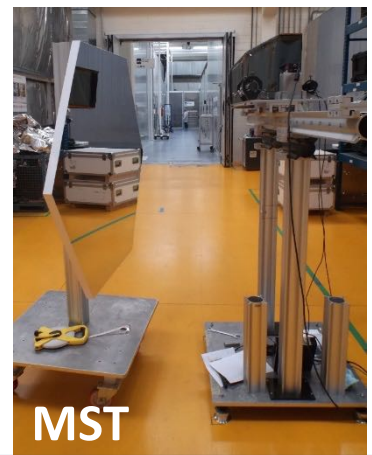
- Modal Analysis → OK
- Static Analyses → OK
- Wind & Seismic Analyses → CTA requirement consolidation

Seismic analyses were carried out to evaluate the structural stress with respect to the scenario described by the "Collapse prevention" specifications.

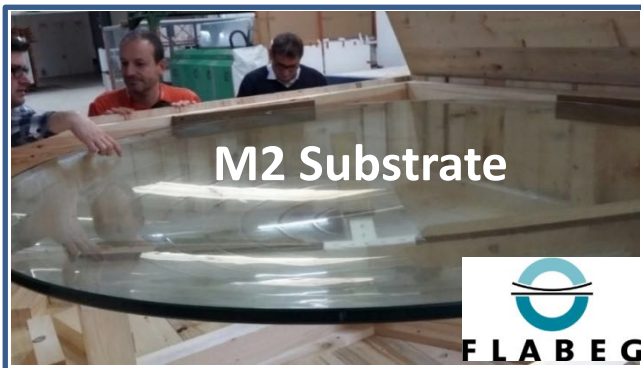
**The structure is able to support these loads, without suffering any damage (structural or permanent) that will prevent motion.**

## Production Status

Mirror type	Bonded	Coated	Sealed	Finished	Packed	Delivered	Total
pSCT S1						10	10
pSCT S2						20	20
MST	23		2	5	38		68
ASTRI-COR1	3						3
ASTRI-COR2	16						16
ASTRI-COR3	17	1	7		10		35
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>152</b>



**M1**

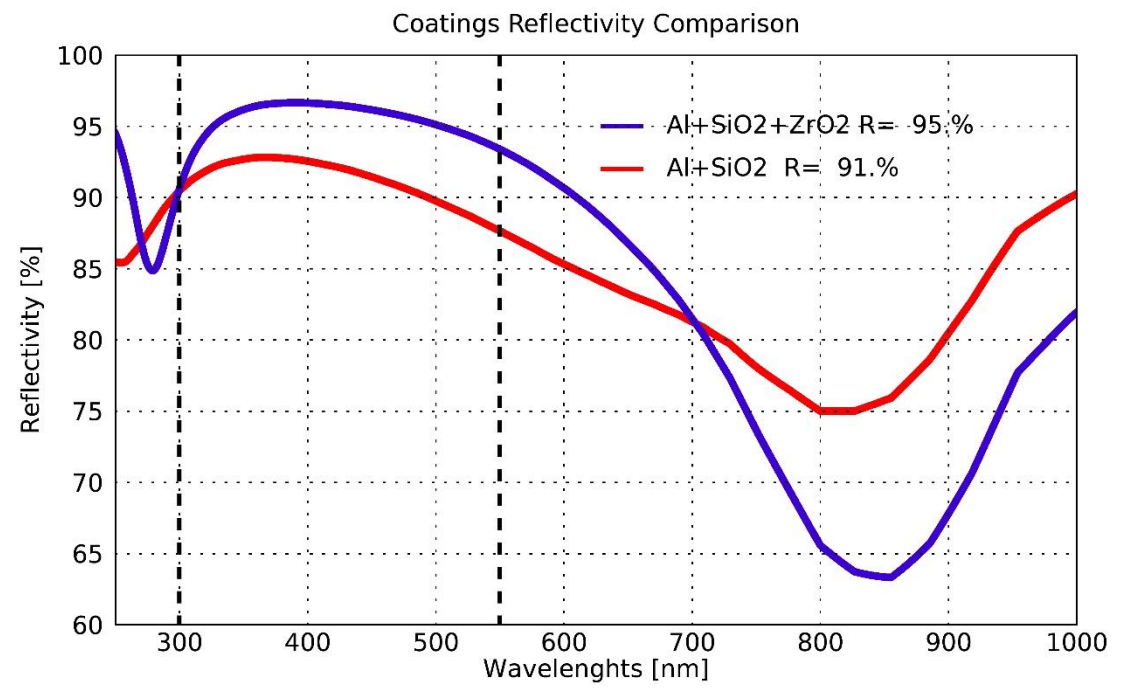


**M2**

- M2 substrate production completed (9 + 1 spare)
- Coating
- Pads integration



## Coating

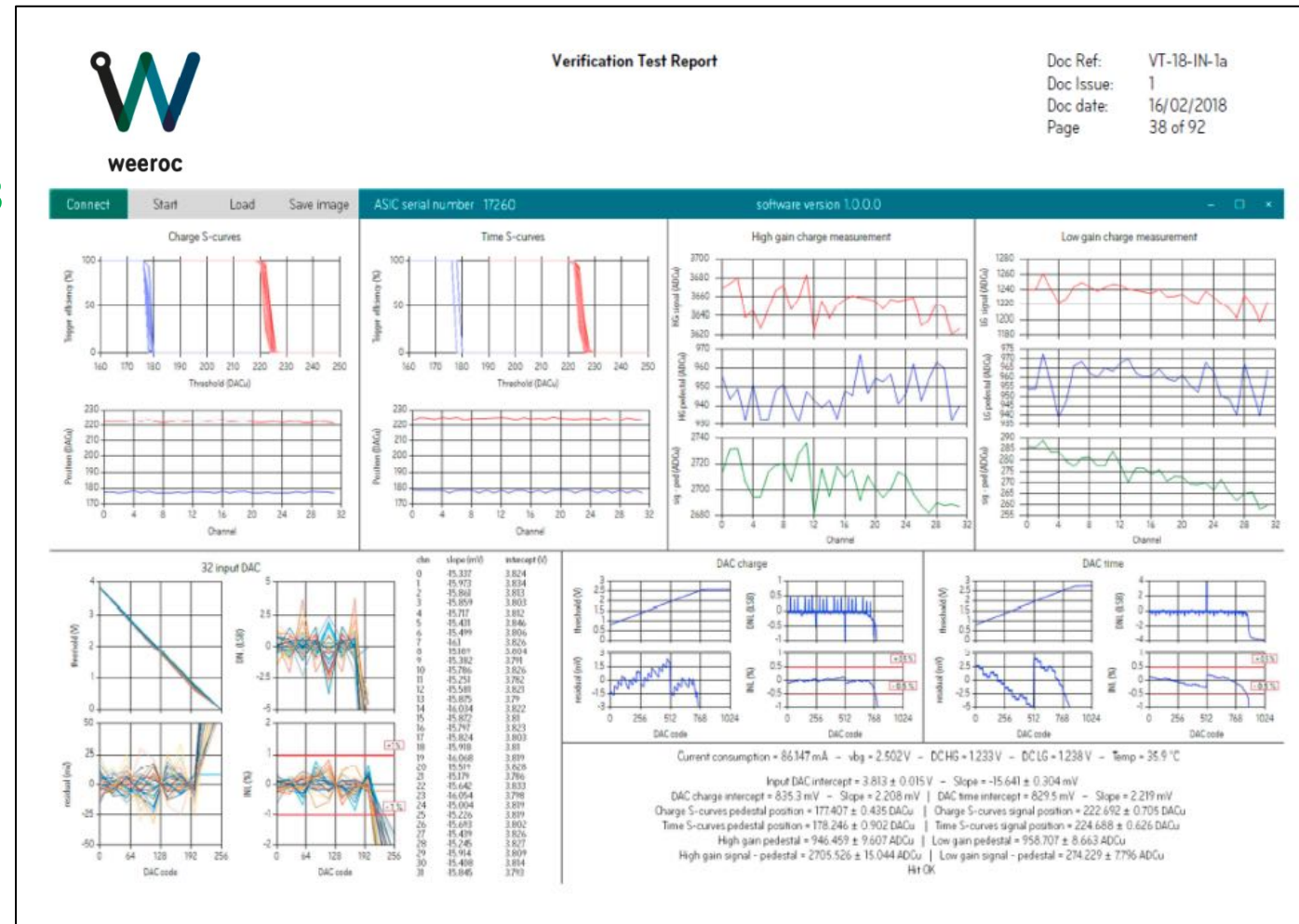


### • Test for reflectivity stability

- Dry Heat
- Damp Heat
- Solar radiation
- Abrasion
- Salt Mist
- Aggressive atmosphere
- Sand blast (waiting for requirement & test definition)



- **ASICS** → procurement of 1010 CITIROC1A
  - Contract assigned to Weeroc
  - KOM: 19<sup>th</sup> of June
  - Production Plan Review: 1<sup>st</sup> of August
  - Qualification phase: completed March 2018
  - **Production started**



## Inventory:

- 1 White Rabbit switch
- 5 White Rabbit boards
- 2 CTA TiCKS & 1 CTA ZEN card
- GPS GNS 1005/D Timing Reference GNSS
- Clock generator CG635
- NIM 2 LVDS signal converter
- 4 PCs to interface with WR network

## Lab test:

- Test CTA TiCKS & Zen WR cards performance.
- Check maximum trigger rate using UDP & TCP protocols.
- Test camera server software
- Test SWAT software
- Test GPS stability

## Work for ASTRI :

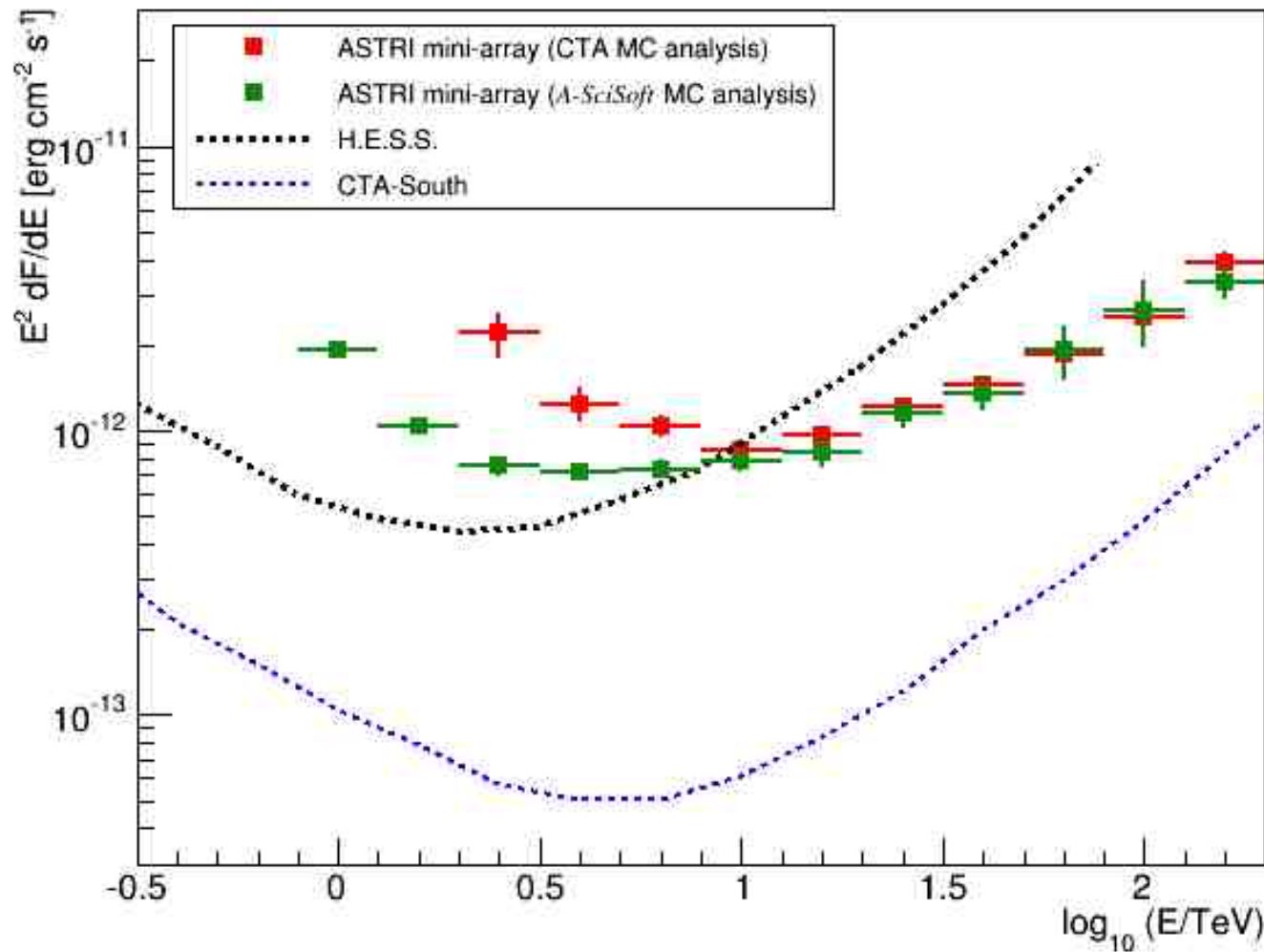
- Test of the software that concerns the timing
- Choose the best Timing card for ASTRI and help the integration with the Camera electronics



## Test Facility at INFN

Gonzalo Rodriguez Fernandez, Aldo Morselli

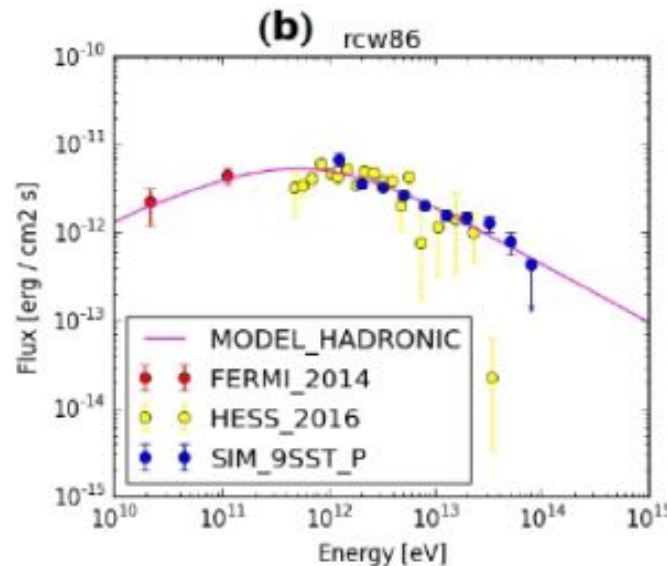
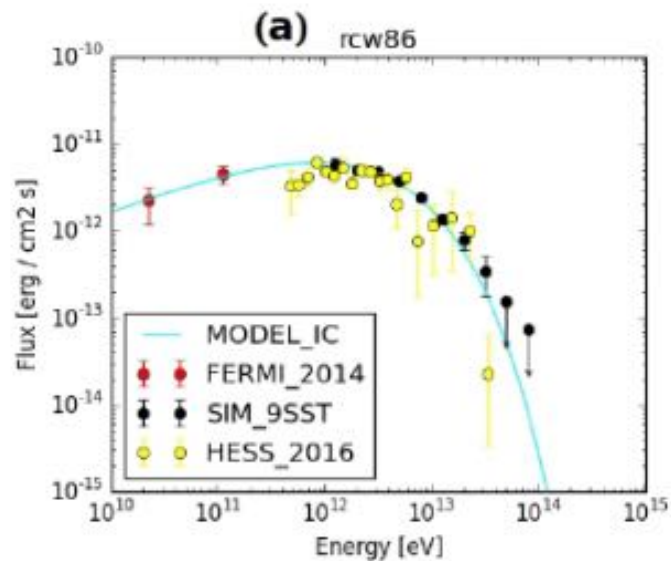




- Differential sensitivity curves ( $5\sigma$ , 50 hours) for 9 telescopes, relative distance  $\sim 250$  m, square layout
- Better the H.E.S.S. above several TeV

**The ASTRI mini-array will exploit its better sensitivity and extended spectral range to investigate:**

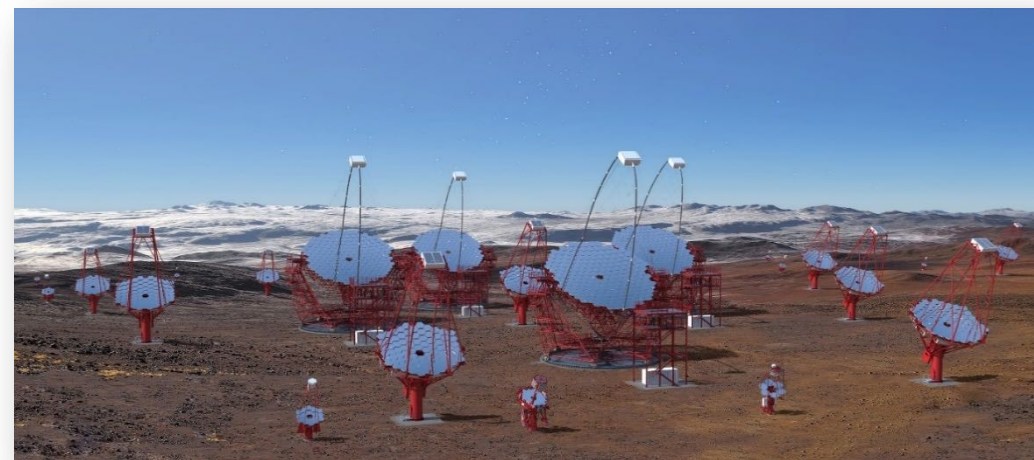
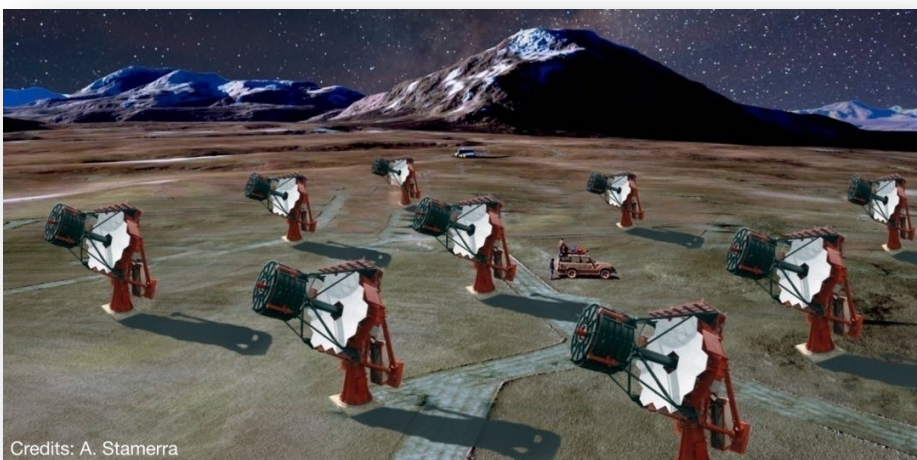
- Extreme blazars (KUV 00311–1938)
- Nearby BL Lac objects (Mrk 501)
- Radio galaxies (M 87)
- Galactic pulsar wind nebulae (Crab Nebula, Vela-X)
- Supernovae remnants (Vela-junior, RX J1713.7–3946)
- Galactic Centre.
- Search for cosmic ray (CR) PeVatrons.



**Simulated spectra of the SNR RCW 86 observed with the ASTRI mini-array (200 h) assuming leptonic or hadronic origin for the gamma-rays**

**Burtovoi et al. 2017**





**Resolution of SST Shareholders at a CTA council meeting (09 May 2018) to implement only one SST design at the observatory**



- The harmonization process started in May
- We (SSTs) should evolve existing designs into a single one preserving previous work
- CTAO management decided to review and evaluate current designs through an external panel
- Deadline to submit proposal/information end of October