



Southern Wide-Field Gamma-ray Observatory

Ulisses Barres de Almeida
for the SWGO Collaboration



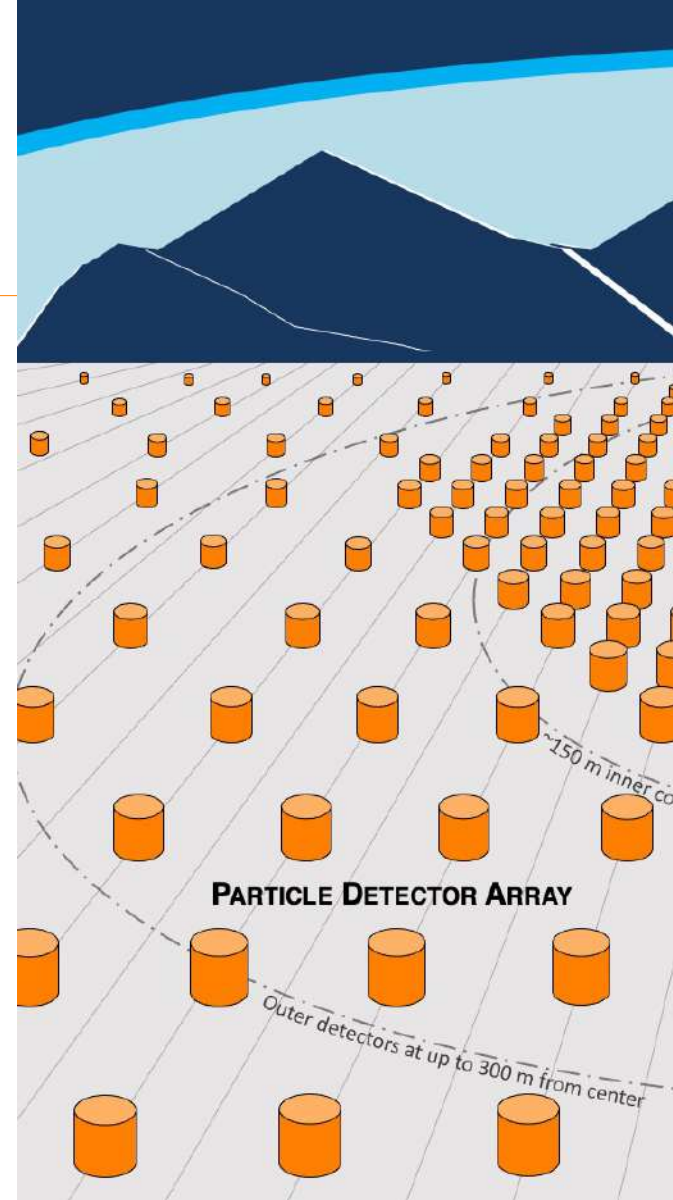
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Content

- The field in context
- Introduction of SWGGO
- Status of R&D
- Science Outlook

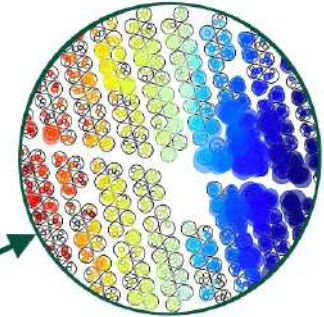


Ground-based gamma-rays

Two techniques

1. Air-Cherenkov telescopes
2. Altitude particle arrays

High Duty Cycle
Wide-Field of View
UHE Performance

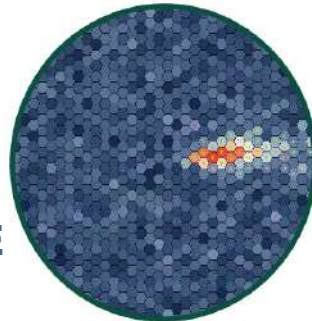


Few ns spread in
particle arrival at
each detector

Electro-
Magnetic
Cascade

Few ns light flash

Cherenkov
Light



Low Duty Cycle
Pointing instruments
Precision Astronomy at VHE

VERITAS

HAWC

MAGIC



HESS



Ground-based Gamma-ray Astronomy Network

Larger and higher...

1.3 km

© LHAASO Collab.

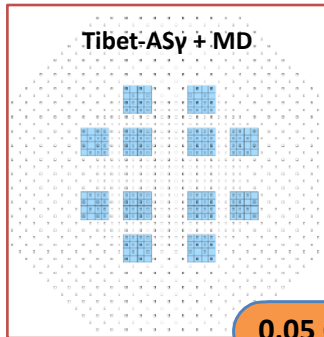
0.01 Crab

2020s



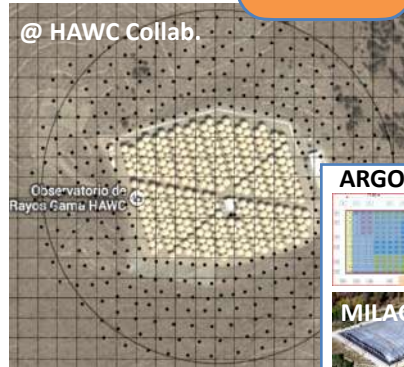
2010s

Tibet-ASy + MD



0.05 Crab

@ HAWC Collab.



2000s

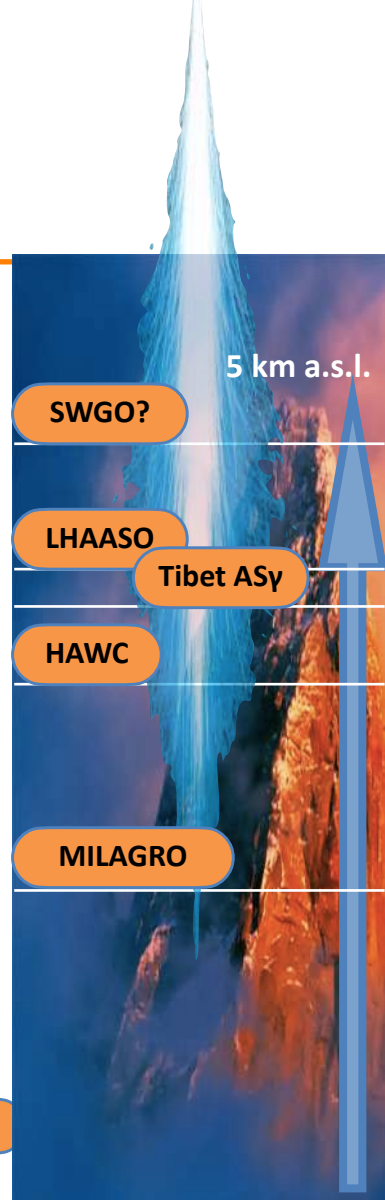
ARGO-YBJ

0.5 Crab



MILAGRO

1.0 Crab



5 km a.s.l.

SWGO?

LHAASO

Tibet ASy

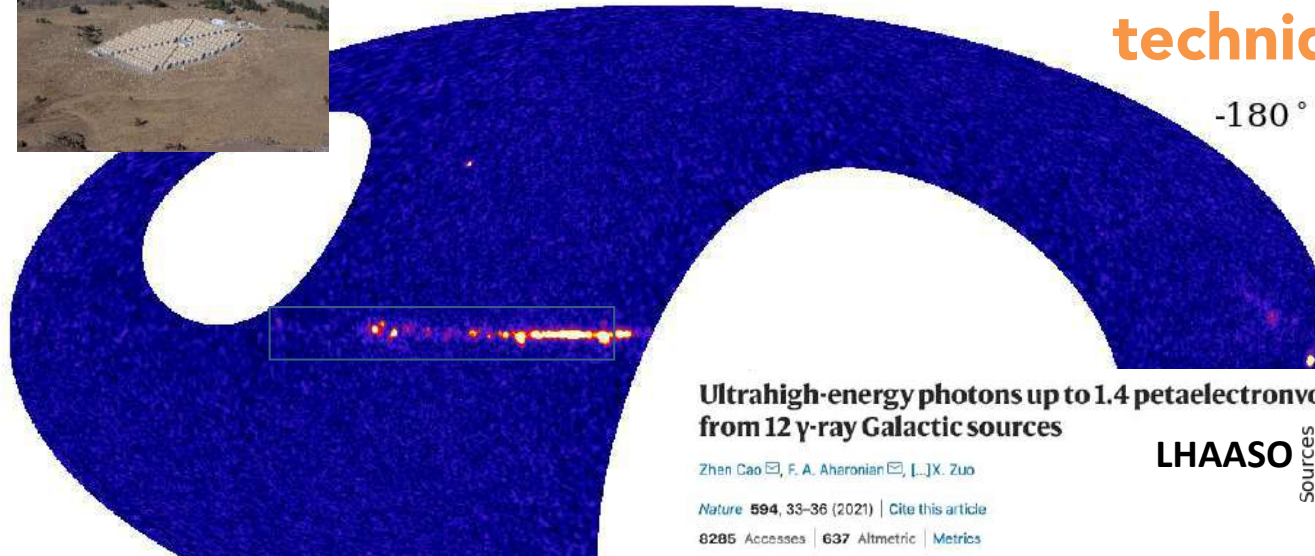
HAWC

MILAGRO

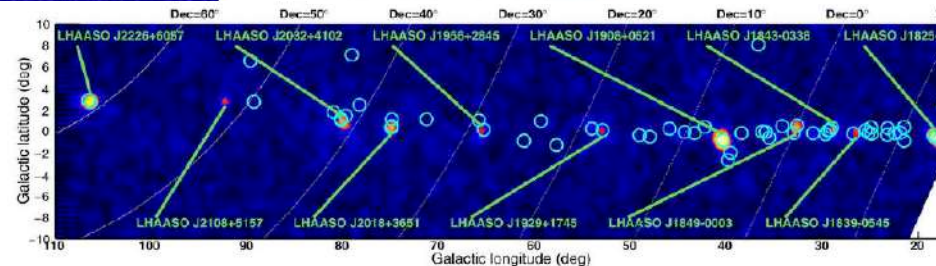
A new window for the UHE sky



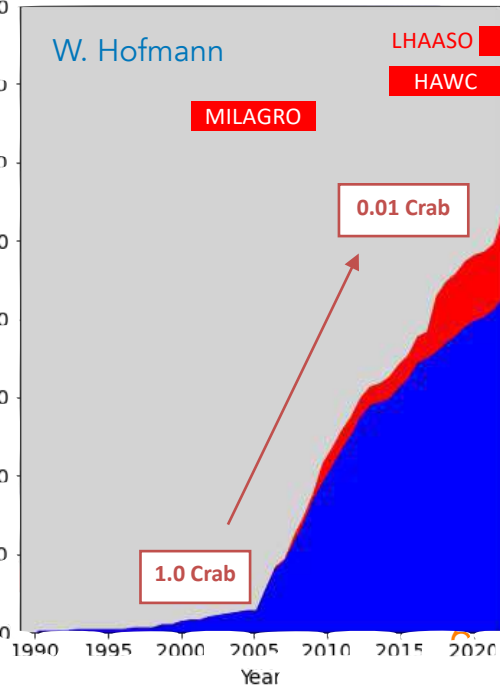
HAWC



Major observational technique > 10s TeV



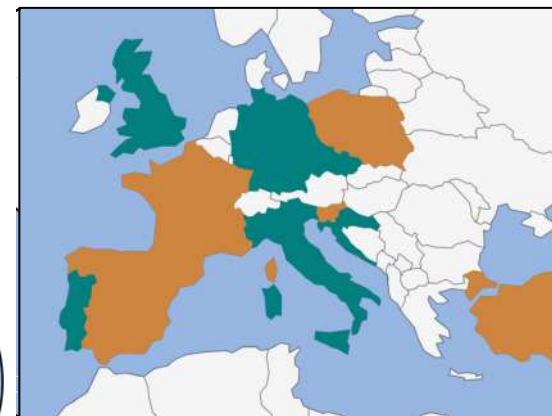
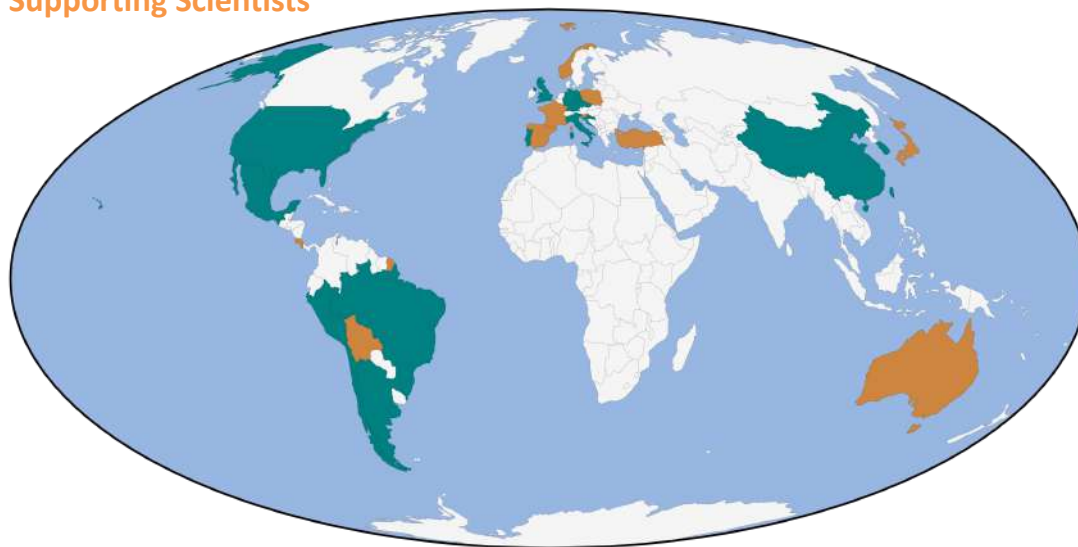
LHAASO



SWGGO Collaboration

Member Institutes

Supporting Scientists



SWGGO partners

- 14 countries, 66 institutes*
- + supporting scientists

Argentina	Italy
Brazil	Mexico
Chile	Peru
China	Portugal
Croatia	South Korea
Czech Republic	United Kingdom
Germany	United States

A Wide-field Gamma-ray Observatory in the South

Cerro Vecar, Argentina - 4800 m



Pampa La Bola, Chile - 4770 m



Yanque, Peru - 4800 m



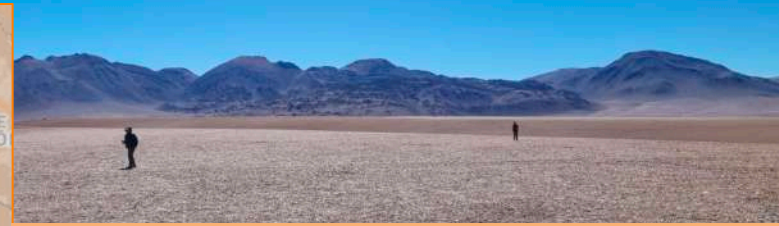
Sibinacocha, Peru - 4900 m



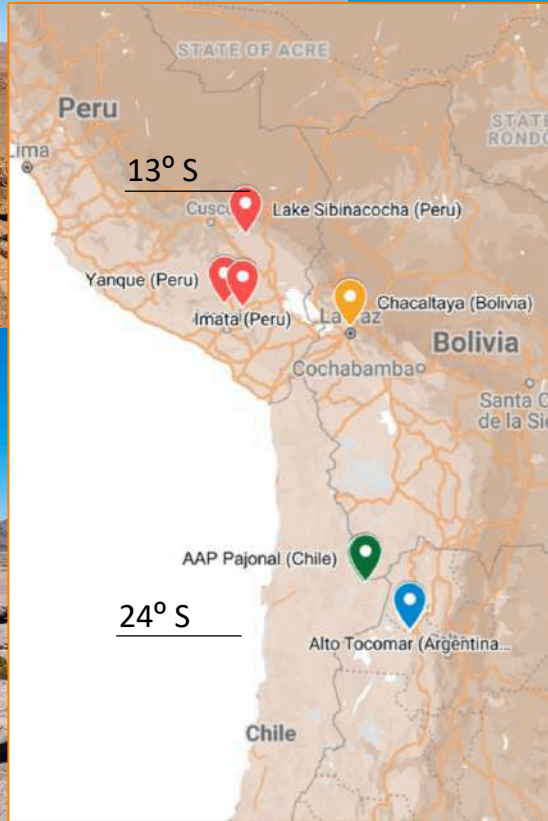
A Wide-field Gamma-ray Observatory in the South

Cerro Vecar, Argentina - 4800 m

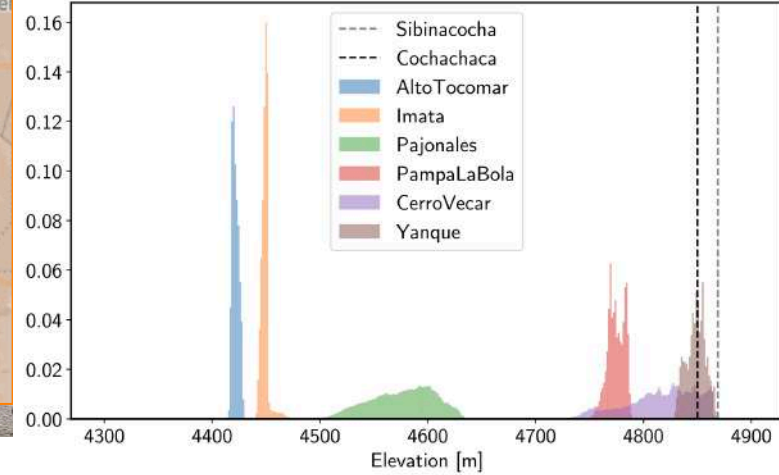
Pampa La Bola, Chile - 4770 m



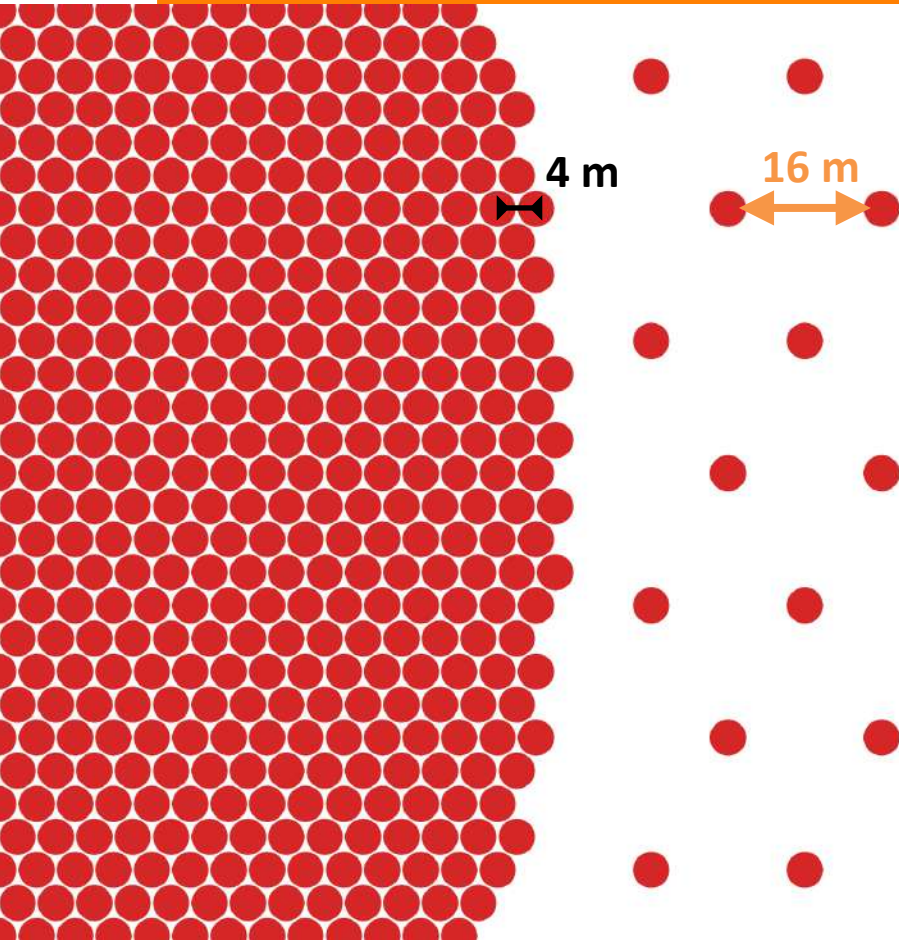
Yanque, Peru - 4800 m



2020-21: Site Candidates
2022-23: Visits and Characterisation
2024: Site Selection



The baseline detector concept

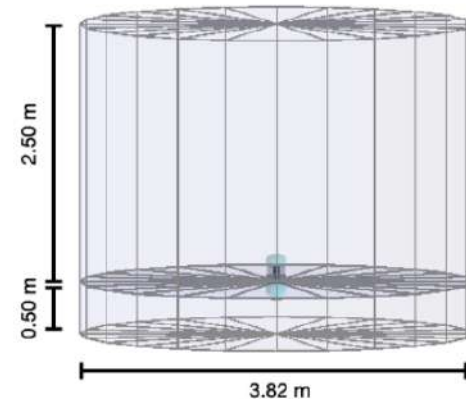


Core: \varnothing 320 m, FF = 80%
5,700 WCD units

Outer: \varnothing 600 m, FF = 5%
880 WCD units

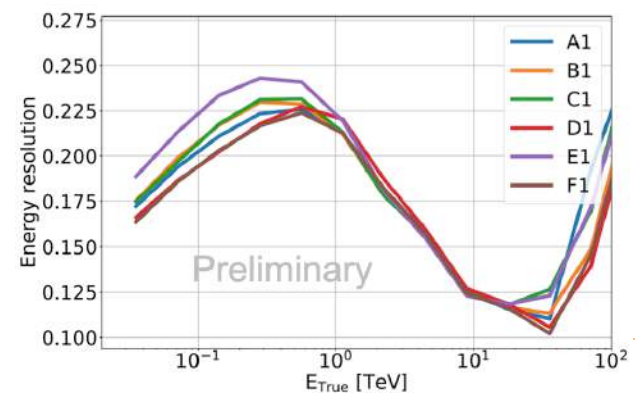
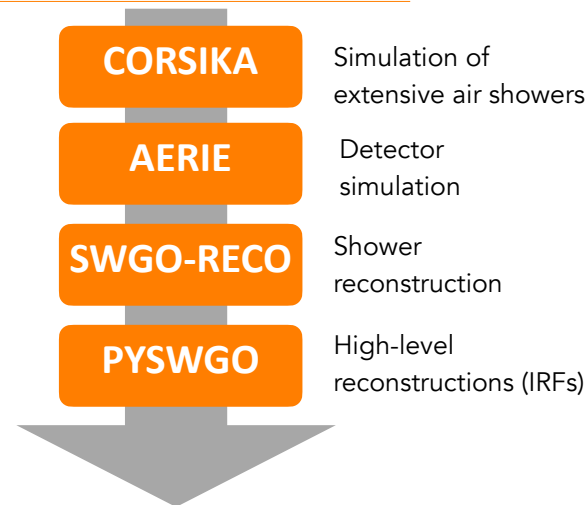
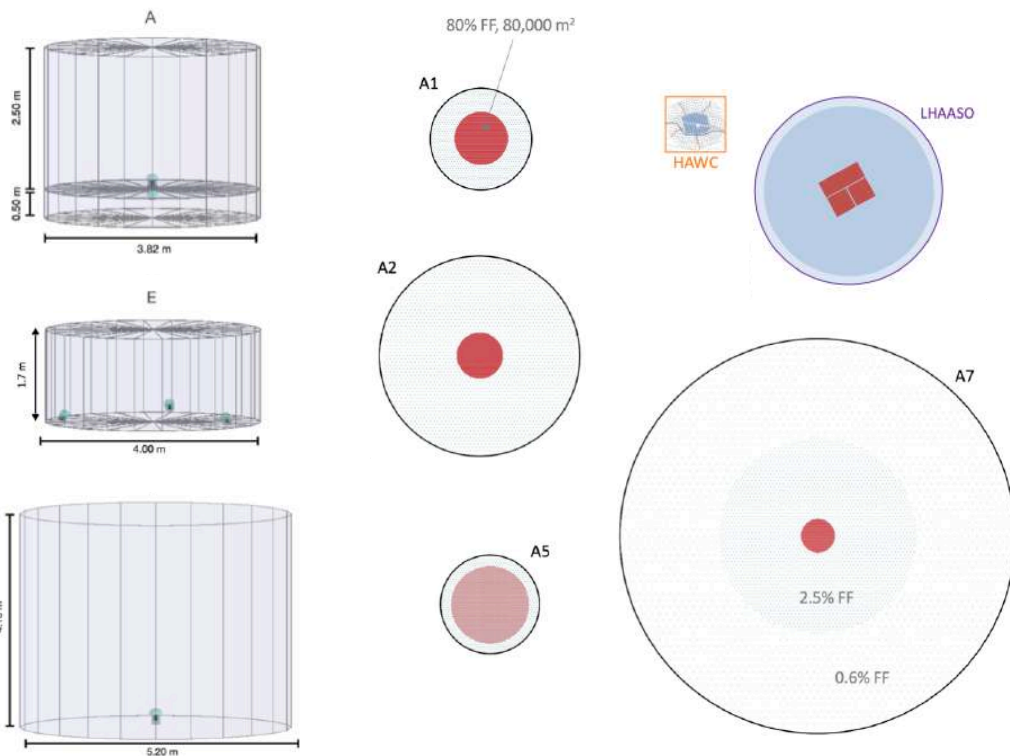
Altitude: 4,700 m a.s.l.

✧ muon counting





Simulation studies with different **WCD concepts** and **array configurations** to select most promising candidates



All layouts present in the SWGO simulation framework

Exploring different WCD concepts

WCD
Unit

Lake

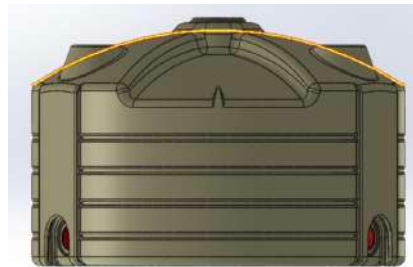
Natural Lake

Artificial
Lake/Pond

Tank

Steel Tank

Rotomolded
Plastic

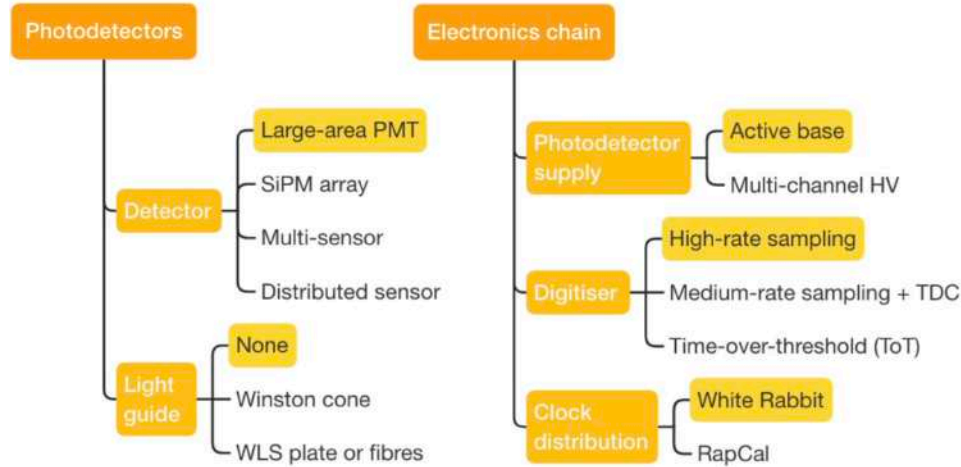
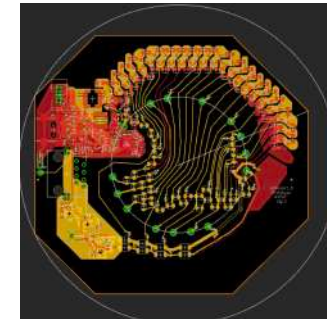


Several Prototypes

In construction - analysed in LAB

- taking data in the field

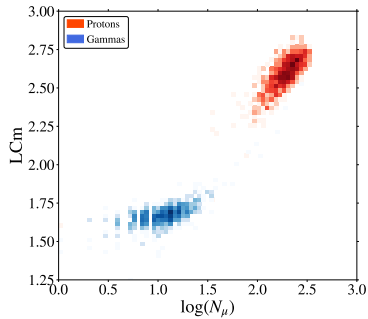
Detector options and prototyping



A next-generation observatory

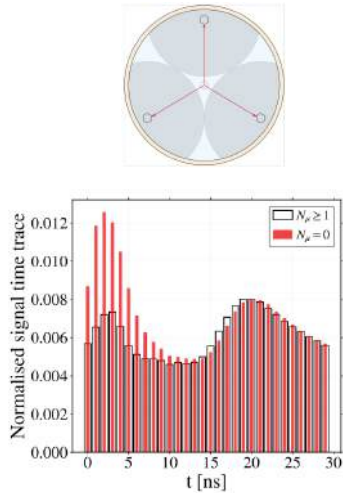
Development of new concepts and approaches

New gamma/hadron
discrimination
approaches



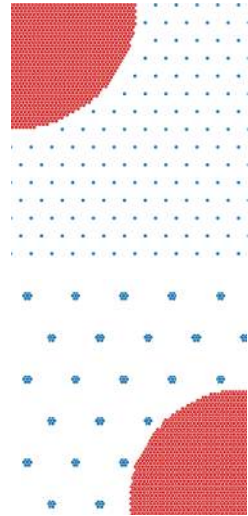
shower footprint
azimuthal
fluctuations

Novel surface
detector concepts



multi-PMT signal
time trace for
muon tag

Alternative
array layout
configurations

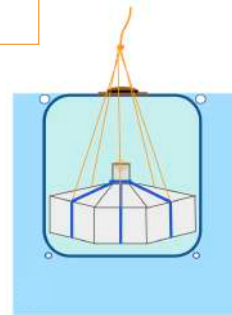


Outer array
configurations

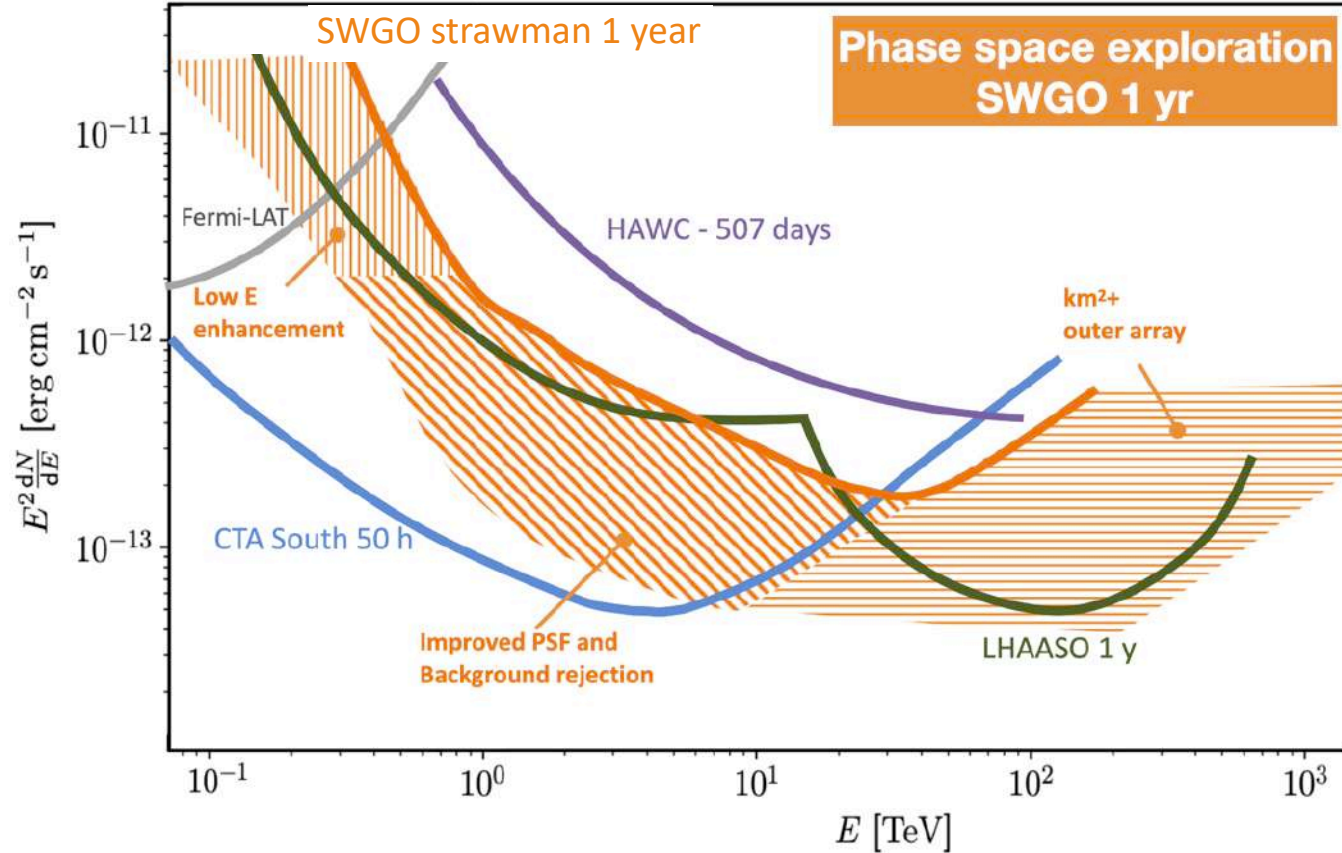
Novel WCD
engineering
solutions



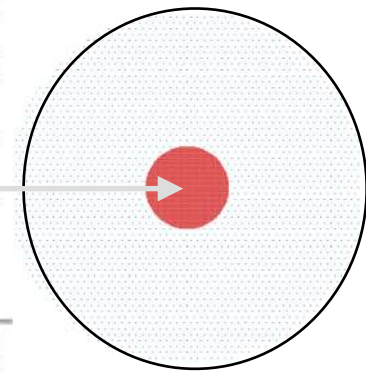
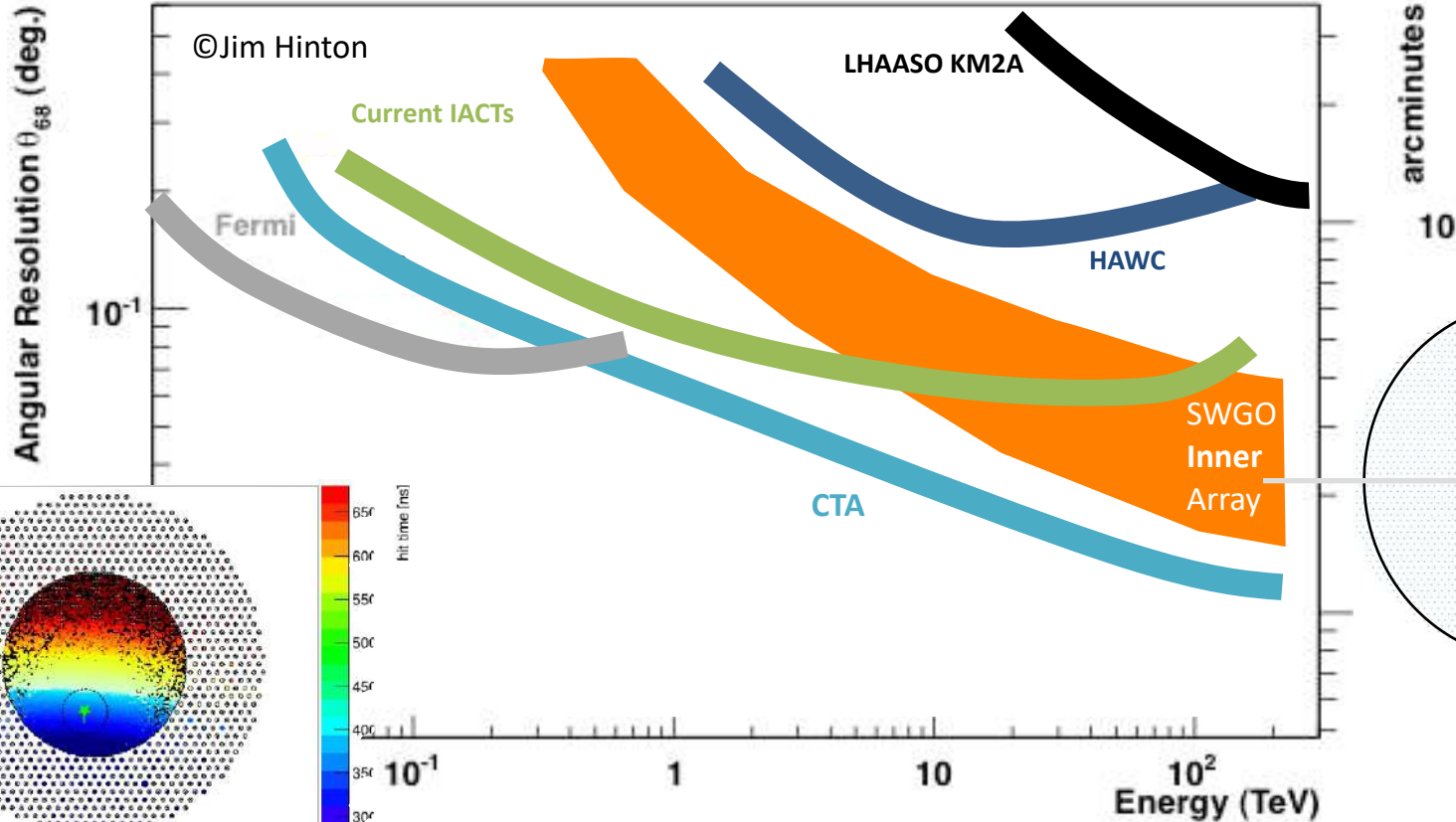
Double-layered bladders
and thermally-insulated
tanks



SWGGO foreseen sensitivity



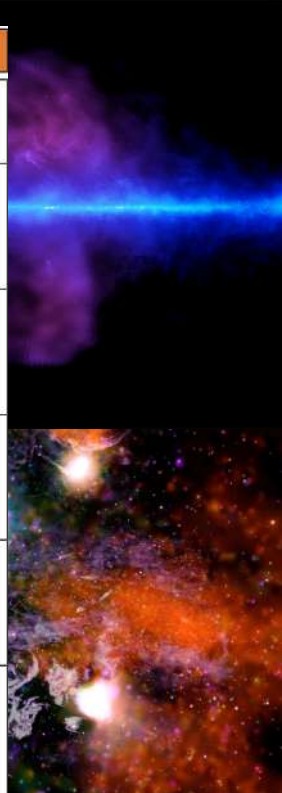
SWGGO Performance Goal Angular Resolution



First IRFs in production for performance expectations



Core Science Case	Design Drivers	Benchmark Description
Transient Sources: Gamma-ray Bursts	Low-energy Site altitude	Min. time for 5σ detection $F(100 \text{ GeV}) = 10^{-8} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
Galactic Accelerators: PeVatron Sources	High-energy sensitivity Energy resolution	Maximum exp-cutoff energy detectable 95% CL in 5 years for: $F(1 \text{ TeV}) = 5 \text{ mCrab}$, index = -2.3
Galactic Accelerators: PWNe and TeV Halos	Extended source sensitivity Angular resolution	Max. angular extension detected at 5σ in 5-yr integration for: $F(>1 \text{ TeV}) = 5 \times 10^{-13} \text{ TeV cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
Diffuse Emission: Fermi Bubbles	Background rejection	Minimum diffuse cosmic-ray residual background level. Threshold: $< 10^{-4}$ level at 1 TeV.
Fundamental Physics: Dark Matter from GC Halo	Mid-range energy sensitivity Site latitude	Max. energy for $b\bar{b}$ thermal relic cross-section at 95% CL in 5-yr, for Einasto profile.
Cosmic-rays: Mass-resolved dipole Multipole anisotropy	Muon counting capability	Max. dipole energy at 10^{-3} level. Log-mass resolution at 1 PeV – goal is $A = 1, 4, 14, 56$; Maximum multipole scale $> 0.1 \text{ PeV}$.

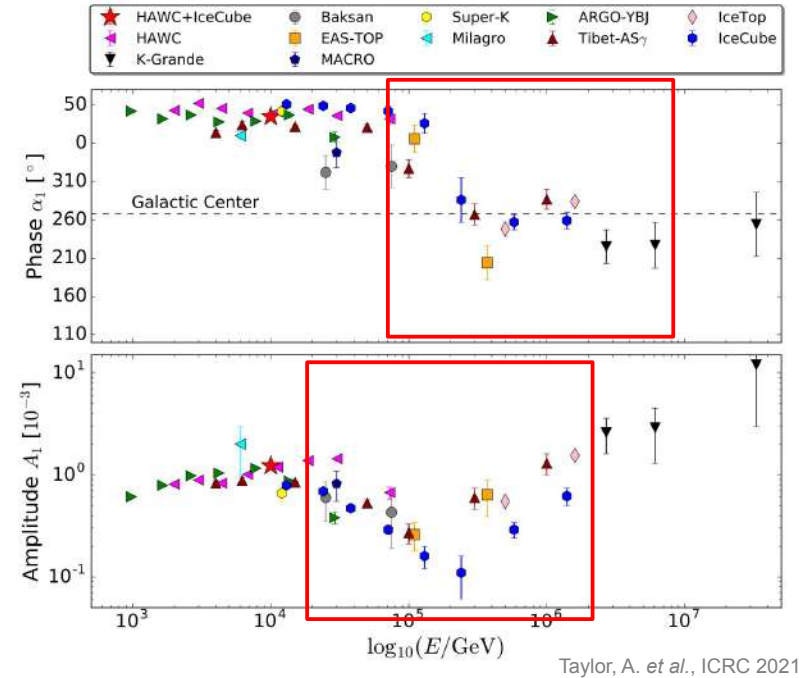
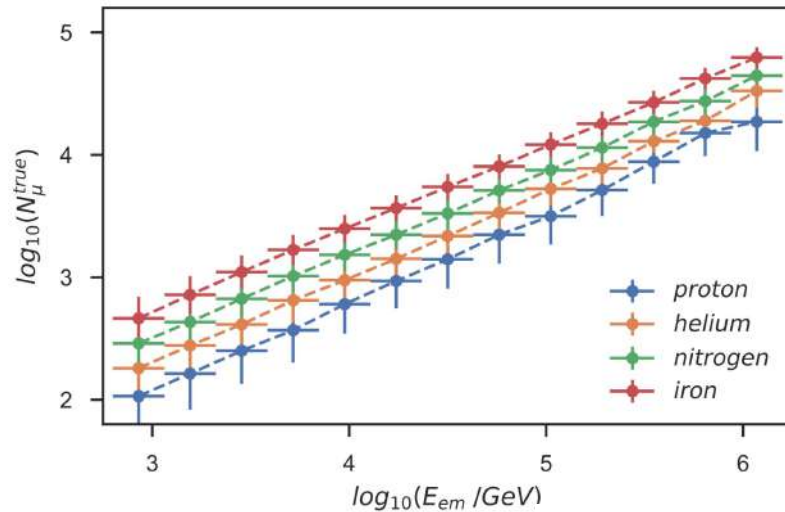


Transients with SWGO

- ⊙ Short-timescale sensitivity of ground-particle detectors is much worse than IACTs at low E! **But room for improvement < 1 TeV**
- ⊙ And a number of other advantages...
 - **100% duty cycle** → higher rate and monitoring capability of transients
→ bridging the gap with satellite facilities
 - **Serendipitous view** - observation of onset / prompt emission of GRBs
 - **A trigger instrument!**
 - ✓ Blind searches and offline checks for afterglow triggers
 - Critical synergy with IACTs and other MWL + MM instruments
- ✧ **SWGO can bring the 10s deg² error boxes (GBM, GW) down to \sim deg²**

Cosmic rays

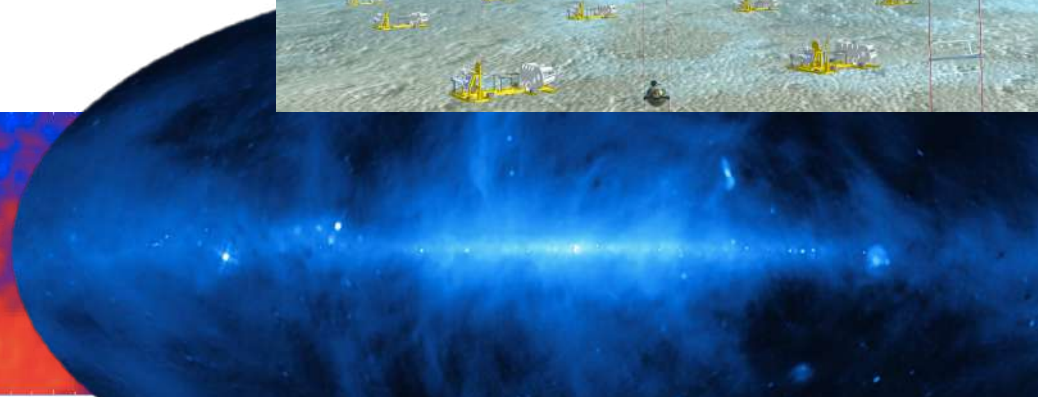
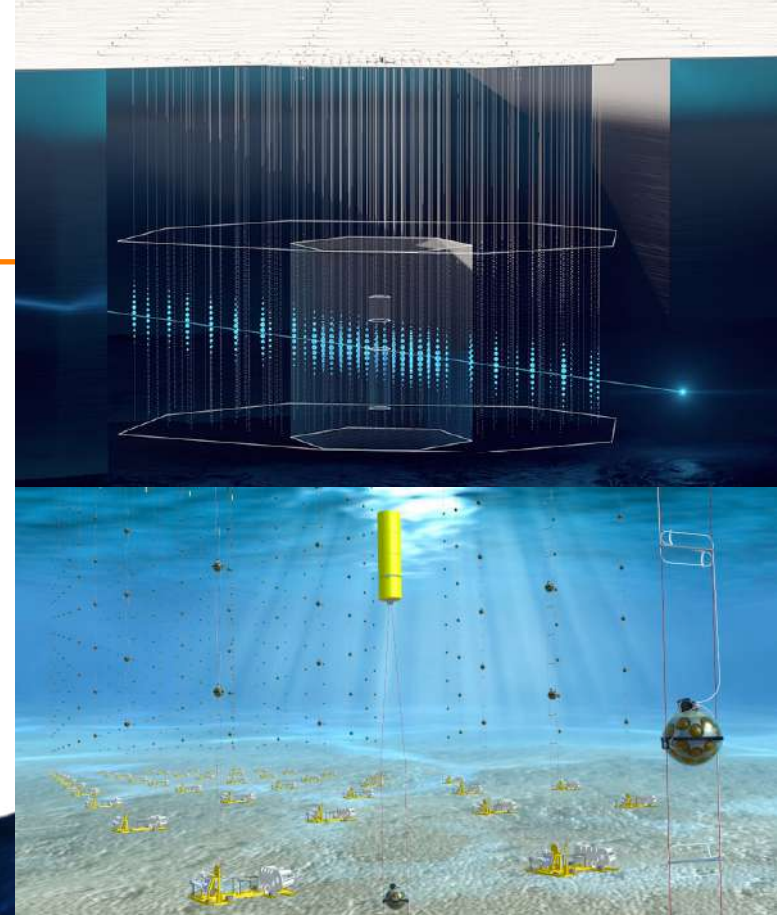
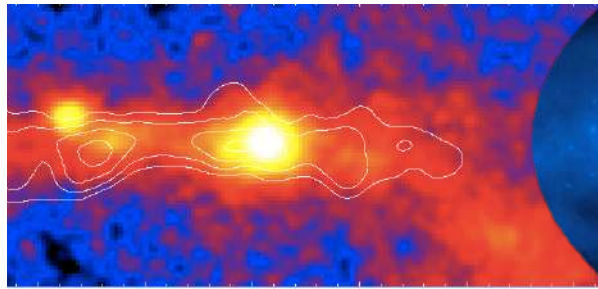
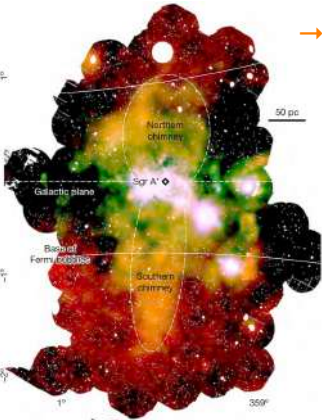
- ◎ Charged cosmic ray physics at the knee
 - Mass-resolved anisotropy studies
- ◎ Measuring μ -content with WCDs
 - Tagging of single muons at detector unit



Taylor, A. et al., ICRC 2021

Neutrino Synergies

- ⊙ SWGO+LHAASO
 - Full sky map of TeV-PeV γ emission
- ⊙ Strongly complements new generation of **neutrino instruments**
 - Mapping out diffuse emission / separating IC from pion decay emission, **Dark Matter search** +++
 - Nearby transients/flares



Status & Plan

SWGGO R&D Phase Milestones	
✓	M1 R&D Phase Plan Established
✓	M2 Science Benchmarks Defined
✓	M3 Reference Configuration & Options Defined
✓	M4 Site Shortlist Complete
✓	M5 Candidate Configurations Defined
→	M6 Performance of Candidate Configurations Evaluated
	M7 Preferred Site Identified
	M8 Design Finalised
	M9 Construction & Operation Proposal Complete

⊙ R&D Phase

- Kick off meeting Oct 2019
- Expected completion 2024
 - ✓ Site and Design Choices made
- Then:

⊙ Preparatory Phase

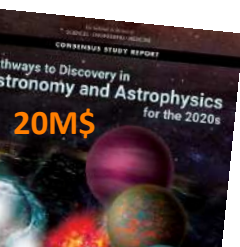
- Detailed construction planning
- **Engineering Array**

⊙ (Full) Construction Phase

- 2027+

⊙ Roadmaps

- US Decadal Review
- SNOWMASS, APPEC, Astronet





Outreach and Communication

Production of poster and flyers in several languages

3D event display visualizer of SWGO

The Southern Wide-field Gamma-ray Observatory (SWGO) is an astrophysical gamma-ray observatory to be built in South America.

SWGO will detect very high-energy light known as gamma rays entering the Earth from outer space.

The SWGO Collaboration involves more than 200 scientists from 14 countries.

SWGO will be a high-altitude gamma-ray astrophysical observatory installed over 4,400 meters above sea level. The detector will consist of thousands of detector units, which could be deployed as an array of individual detector units, or assembled in a building. Detector units could be spread on the ground or submerged in a lake. The detector will cover square kilometer and each detector will have several tons of water, while the whole array will contain several thousands of tons of it.

SWGO será el primer observatorio de rayos gamma a gran altitud que proveerá una cobertura amplia de una gran porción de cielo del Sur.

Crédito: Richard White, IAPPA

Imagen del cielo en rayos gamma visto actualmente por HAWC y por futuras observaciones de SWGO.

SWGO complementará instrumentos actuales y futuros como HAWC, LHAASO y CTA; un esfuerzo mundial de detección de multi mensajeros para revelar los misterios de los fenómenos astrofísicos más extremos.

SWGO detectará los rayos gamma de las más altas energías provenientes del espacio, permitiendo estudiar objetos cósmicos extremos como agujeros negros supermasivos y remanentes de supernova, así como investigar la naturaleza de la materia oscura.

SWGO también tiene como objetivo desarrollar una buena relación con el país anfitrión y la comunidad local.

¿Te gustaría saber más?

CONTACTO:
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<https://wminho.lip.pt/swgo/>

Summary

- ⦿ SWGO is deep into the R&D phase
- ⦿ Engineering array at few-% scale planned after CDR, in 2024+
- ⦿ **Science and performance goals**
 - New window for **PeVatron astronomy** in the southern hemisphere
 - Wide-energy range coverage **100 GeV - 1 PeV**
 - Sensitivity for transient phenomena below **1 TeV**
 - Crucial mass-resolved CR data at the knee region
- ⦿ A key instrument for MM astrophysics for the next decades!

Thank you!



SWGO acknowledgements

The 8th Collaboration Meeting, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
16th to 20th April, 2023



The Southern Wide-field Gamma-ray Observatory