



The AGILE mission legacy

Carlotta Pittori
INAF-OAR and ASI-SSDC
on behalf of the AGILE Team



RICAP-24, Roma International Conference on AstroParticle Physics, 23-27 Sep, 2024 – Villa Tuscolana, Frascati (Roma), Italy

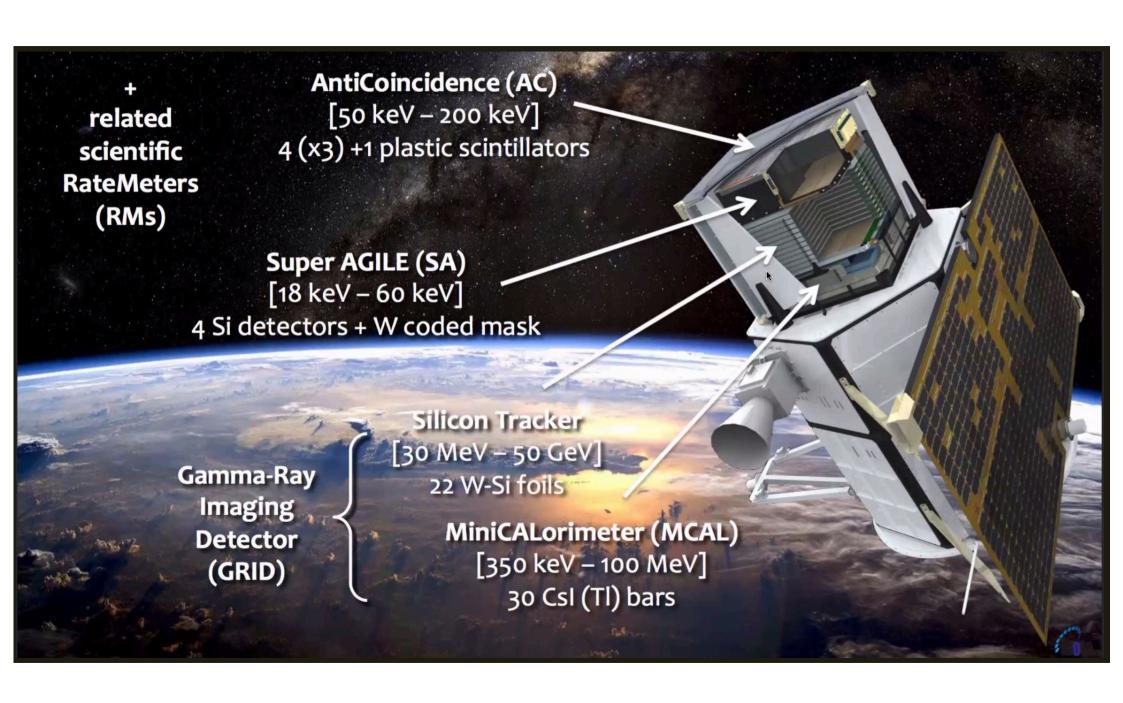
India April 23, 2007: AGILE satellite launch

Low Earth equatorial orbit: 550 Km and < 3 deg inclination angle





Italian Space Agency (ASI) Mission with INFN, INAF participation



AGILE: 16 years and 10 months of operations in space

- Gamma-ray detector (GRID): 50 MeV 1 GeV
- Minicalorimeter (MCAL): 400 keV-100 MeV
- **Super-AGILE X-ray detector: 18-60 keV**
- Anticoincidence System (AC): 80-200 keV

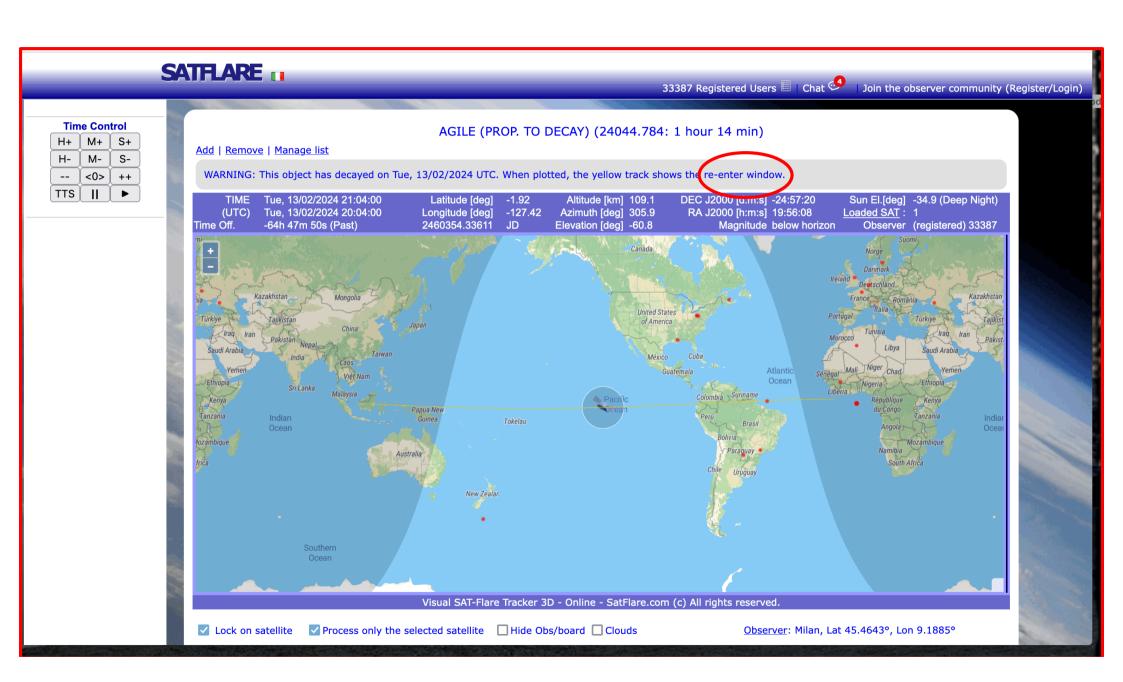
Science observations ended on 18 January, 2024

Satellite re-entry: 14 February, 2024!



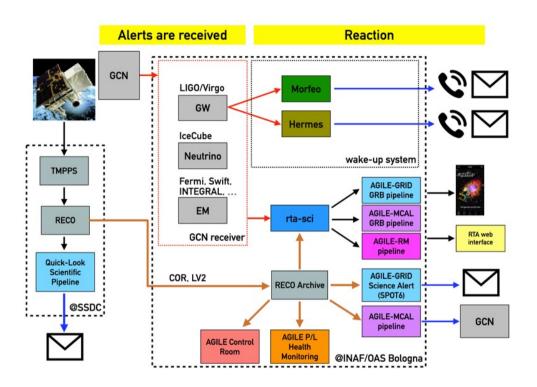
Fully operational, payload in nominal status till the end, active in:

- gamma-ray astrophysics
- terrestrial atmosph. & magnetosph. physics
- search of GW counterparts, neutrinos, Fast Radio Bursts, Solar flares and other transients



AGILE main results and work in progress

AGILE Fast Real-Time Analysis



- Distributed alert system between SSDC e INAF-OAS Bologna
- Automatic AGILE data analysis (GRID, MCAL, Ratemeters)
- Fast reaction to external alerts (GCN, e.g. GRB, neutrinos, GW, ...)
- Internal automatic alert generation (via email, SMS) and direct connection with the GCN network for MCAL notices.
- Development of similar pipelines starting from the AGILE heritage for new missions such as COSI, Gamma-FLASH and CTAO

- Parmiggiani, N. et. al.: "The RTApipe framework for the gamma-ray real-time analysis software development", A&C 2022 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ascom.2022.100570
- Parmiggiani, N. et. al.: "The AGILE real-time analysis software system to detect short-transient events in the multi-messenger era", A&C 2023, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ascom.2023.100726

Summary of AGILE results in >16 years of operations

- Publications: the scientific production of the AGILE Team consists of> 890 bibliographic references in ADS, of which> 160 refereed articles.
- The monitoring of the sky with a rapid and efficient alert system led to the publication of >240 ATels and >300 GCNs. From May 2019, 101 MCAL GCN automatic notices have been published.
- The Quick Look system developed by INAF-OAS, distributed between the data center at SSDC and INAF-OAS in Bologna, produced scientific results within ~ 25 min from the data downlink to the ASI Malindi ground station: an absolute record for gamma astrophysics. The Team has also developed AGILEScience App on Google Play and App Store to monitor and follow the observations of the AGILE satellite on mobile devices.
- AGILE and the search for GW counterparts: participation of Team members with shifts 24/7 during LIGO-VIRGO observational runs. AGILE follow-up of all pre-O4 GW events, with 96 GW-AGILE type GCNs published during O3 and collected in a dedicated web page in SSDC: https://agile.ssdc.asi.it/news_gw.html
 AGILE completed the follow-up of all GW events up to the end of LVK O4a (first part) on Jan 16, 2024.
- AGILE contribution to **Fast Radio Bursts** science: **very important discovery** on April 28, 2020 published in **Nature, Tavani et al. 2021** (2021NatAs...5..401T)

Main AGILE-led publications in descending order of citation in ADS

Therefore, neither important MW and MM publications nor the most recent ones are included in this list

#	DOI	Descrizione	:
1	10.1051/0004-6361/200810527	Titolo: The AGILE Mission Autori:M. Tavani and G. Barbiellini and A. Argan and F. Boffelli and A. Bulgarelli and P. Caraveo and P. W Publisher:EDP Sciences Rivista: Astronomy \& Astrophysics Anno pubblicazione:2009	The AGILE Mission
2	10.1126/science.1200083	Titolo: Discovery of Powerful Gamma-Ray Flares from the Crab Nebula Autori:M. Tavani and A. Bulgarelli and V. Vittorini and A. Pellizzoni and E. Striani and P. Caraveo and M Publisher:American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Rivista: Science Anno pubblicazione:2011	Bruno Rossi Prize 2012 Marco Tavani and the AGILE team
3	10.1038/nature08578	Titolo: Extreme particle acceleration in the microquasar Cygnus\hspace0.167emX-3 Autori:M. Tavani and A. Bulgarelli and G. Piano and S. Sabatini and E. Striani and Y. Evangelista and A. T Publisher:Springer Science and Business Media LLC Rivista: Nature Anno pubblicazione:2009	Cyg X-3 mQSO flares, Nature
4	10.1088/2041-8205/742/2/L30	Titolo: NEUTRAL PION EMISSION FROM ACCELERATED PROTONS IN THE SUPERNOVA REMNANT W44 Autori:A. Giuliani and M. Cardillo and M. Tavani and Y. Fukui and S. Yoshiike and K. Torii and G. Dubner a Publisher:American Astronomical Society Rivista: The Astrophysical Journal Anno pubblicazione:2011	CR acceleration in SNR W44
5	10.1103/PhysRevLett.106.018501	Titolo: Terrestrial Gamma-Ray Flashes as Powerful Particle Accelerators Autori:M. Tavani and M. Marisaldi and C. Labanti and F. Fuschino and A. Argan and A. Trois and P. Giommi a Publisher:American Physical Society (APS) Rivista: Physical Review Letters Anno pubblicazione:2011	TGFs as powerful p.cle accelerators
6	10.1029/2009JA014502	Titolo: Detection of terrestrial gamma ray flashes up to 40 MeV by the AGILE satellite Autori:M. Marisaldi and F. Fuschino and C. Labanti and M. Galli and F. Longo and E. Del Monte and G. Barbi Publisher:American Geophysical Union (AGU) Rivista: Journal of Geophysical Research: Space Physics Anno pubblicazione:2010	HE TGFs seen by AGILE-MCAL
7	10.1016/j.nima.2007.07.147	Titolo: SuperAGILE: The hard X-ray imager for the AGILE space mission Autori:M. Feroci and E. Costa and P. Soffitta and E. Del Monte and G. Di Persio and I. Donnarumma and Y. E Publisher:Elsevier BV Rivista: Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment Anno pubblicazione:2007	SuperAGILE X-ray Imager on AGILE
8	10.1051/0004-6361/200911783	Titolo: First AGILE catalog of high-confidence gamma-ray sources Autori:C. Pittori and F. Verrecchia and A. W. Chen and A. Bulgarelli and A. Pellizzoni and A. Giuliani and Publisher:EDP Sciences Rivista: Astronomy \& Astrophysics Anno pubblicazione:2009	The 1AGL Catalog
9	10.1088/2041-8205/710/2/L151	Titolo: DIRECT EVIDENCE FOR HADRONIC COSMIC-RAY ACCELERATION IN THE SUPERNOVA REMNANT IC 443 Autori:M. Tavani and A. Giuliani and A. W. Chen and A. Argan and G. Barbiellini and A. Bulgarelli and P. C Publisher:American Astronomical Society Rivista: The Astrophysical Journal Anno pubblicazione:2010	CR acceleration in SNR IC443
10	10.1088/0004-637X/691/1/L13	Titolo: THE JUNE 2008 FLARE OF MARKARIAN 421 FROM OPTICAL TO TeV ENERGIES Autori:I. Donnarumma and V. Vittorini and S. Vercellone and E. Del Monte and M. Feroci and F. D\textquote Publisher:American Astronomical Society Rivista: The Astrophysical Journal Anno pubblicazione:2008	MWL analysis of flaring blazar Mrk 421

Three of the most important AGILE discoveries:

 Discovery of a new acceleration mechanism inducing intense and rapid flux variations in the Crab Nebula in the energy band above 100 millions of elettronvolt!

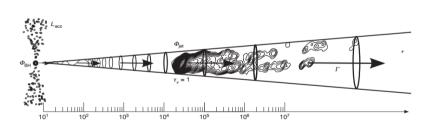


- First direct evidence of cosmic ray acceleration in Supernovae remnants with the AGILE observations of the SNR W44 (2017 Matteucci Medal of the National Academy of Sciences to Marco Tavani).
- Direct evidence that extreme particle acceleration and nonthermalized emission above 100 MeV can occur in microquasars (Cyg X-3 and Cyg X-1) with a repetitive pattern.

AGILE scientific lessons:

- Large Field of View (~ 60 deg) HE sky monitoring: fast and intense variability discovered at all scales.
- Extragalactic, Galactic and even Terrestrial physics
- New acceleration mechanisms
- Role of local magnetic field enhancements
- Plasma instabilities



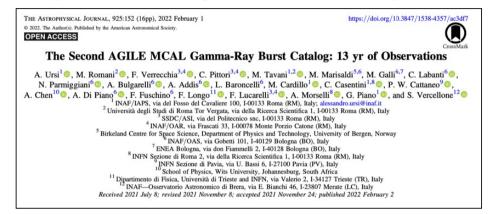


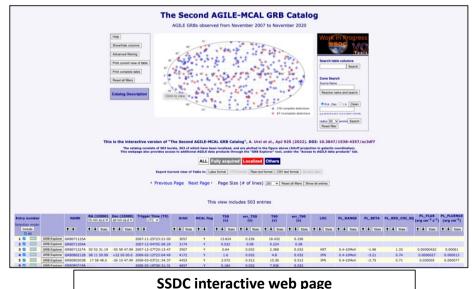
- Review: "The AGILE Mission and Its Scientific Results", M. Tavani, C. Pittori and F. Longo (2023), Handbook of X-ray and Gamma-ray Astrophysics https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007/978-981-16-4544-0_57-1
- Review: "Scientific Highlights of the AGILE Gamma-ray Mission", S. Vercellone, C. Pittori and M. Tavani (2024), Universe https://doi.org/10.3390/universe10040153

Updates on AGILE and GRBs

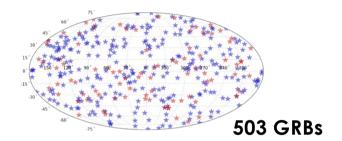
AGILE MCAL second GRB catalog

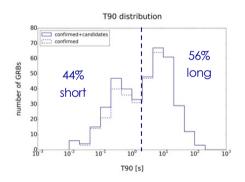
• Comprehensive catalog of all GRB detected by MCAL from 2007 to 2020 (Ursi et al., ApJ 925, 2022)

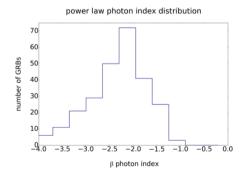




https://www.ssdc.asi.it/mcal2grbcat/



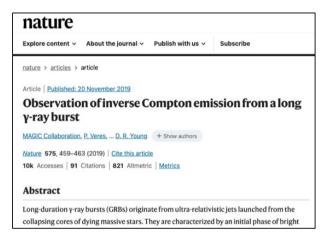


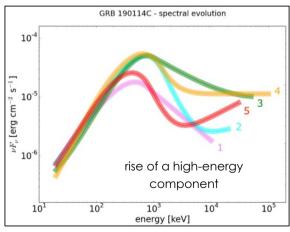


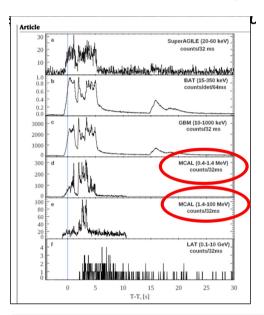
Spectra mostly fittable with power-laws (high-energy tail of the spectra in MCAL band)

GRB 190114C: First GRB event detected at very high-energies by MAGIC!! The AGILE contribution:

- Participation to the multi-frequency paper [MAGIC Collaboration, Nature, 2019]
- Dedicated analysis of the prompt phase with AGILE and Konus-Wind data [Ursi et al., ApJ, 2020]





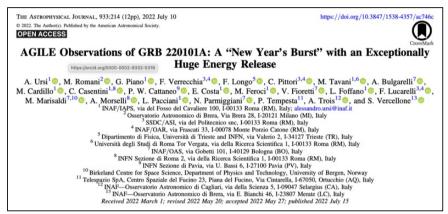




New Year's Burst GRB 220101A

Event with the highest Eiso ever detected up to Jan 2022

• analysis of the prompt phase using AGILE ratemeters data [Ursi et al., ApJ, 2022d]



TRA LE COSTELLAZIONI DI PEGASO E DI ANDROMEDA

Capodanno col botto: visto un Grb da record

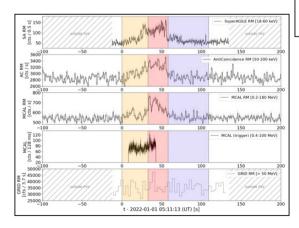
Ha viaggiato per oltre 12 miliardi di anni, è arrivato sulla Terra all'alba del primo gennaio ed è uno dei lampi di raggi gamma più potenti e lunghi mai registrati. Fra i primi strumenti al mondo a intercettarne e caratterizzarne il segnale, quelli a bordo del telescopio spaziale "made in Italy" Agile e quelli dei telescopi dell'Osservatorio di Asiago dell'Inaf di Padova. Na parliamo con due fra i protagonisti dell'osservazione, Alessandro Ursi e Lina Tomasella dell'Inaf

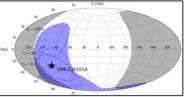
Marco Malaspina 03/01/2022

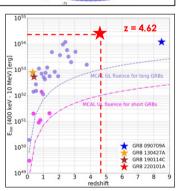
Tweet Condivid: 1321**

News On Media INAF

fully inside the AGILE FoV for most of the duration of the prompt phase







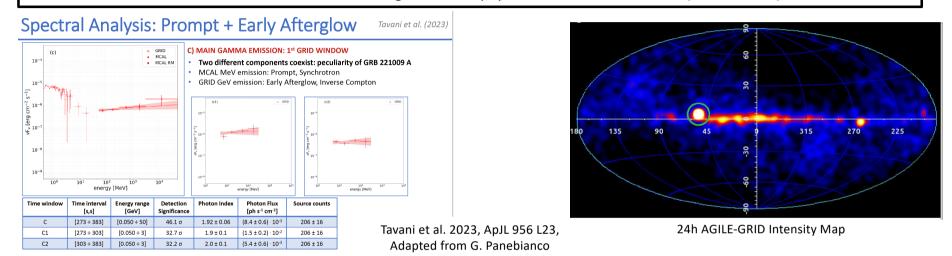


news on ASI website

Gamma-ray detection by AGILE of the exceptional GRB 221009A (THE BOAT)

See Giovanni Piano talk on Wed, Sep 25 at 14:17 !!!

RICAP-24 Session: Searches for Extragalactic astrophysical sources: Sala Vanvitelli (14:00 - 17:30)



AGILE observations provide crucial flux and spectral gamma-ray information regarding the early phases of GRB 221009A during which emission in the TeV range was reported.

Transition between prompt and afterglow emission with a phase of coexistence of MeV and GeV emissions.

⇒ **NEW PAPER:** "Theoretical modelling of the exceptional GRB 221009A afterglow", **L. Foffano**, M. Tavani and G. Piano, accepted for publication in ApJL, doi: 10.48550/arXiv.2409.02859

Deep Learning for AGILE GRB detection

See Nicolò Parmiggiani talk on Wed, Sep 25 at 15:08 !!!

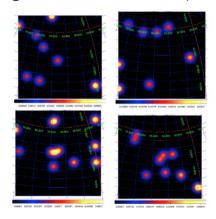
RICAP-24 Session: Searches for Extragalactic astrophysical sources: Sala Vanvitelli (14:00 - 17:30)

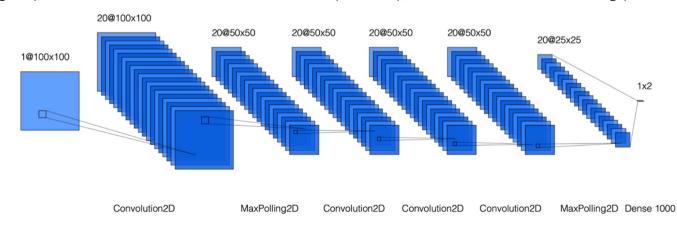


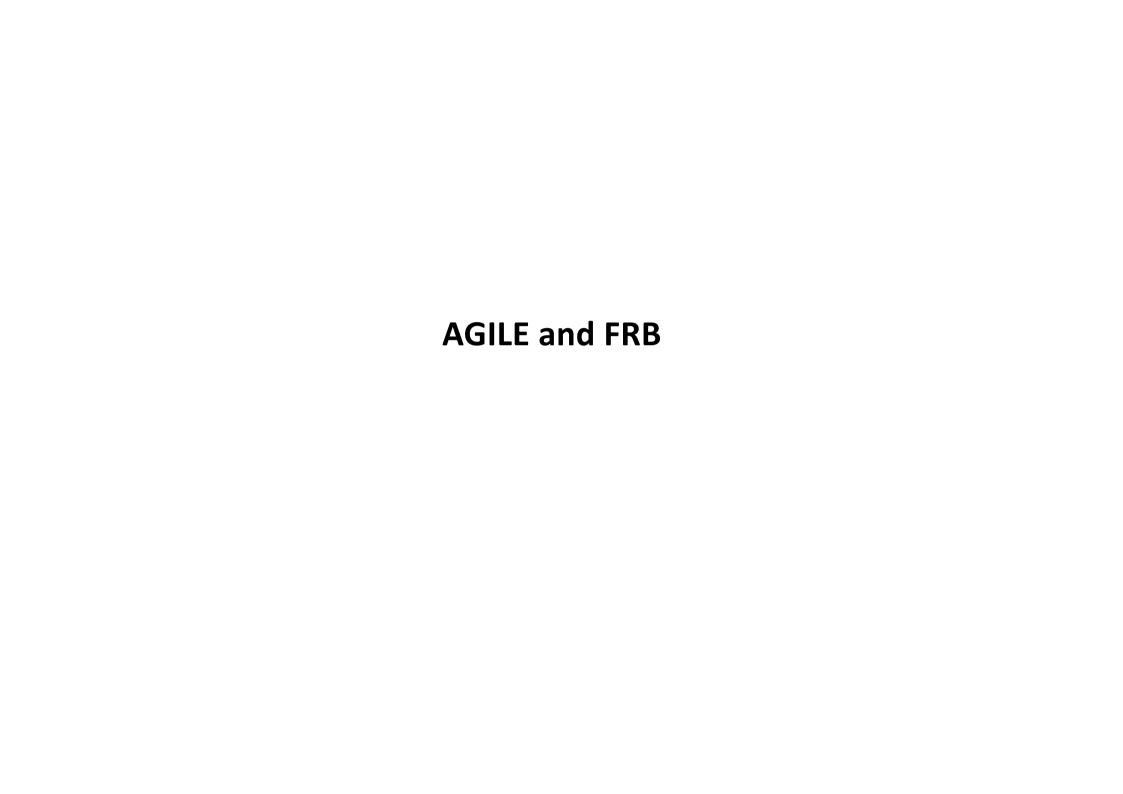
- Deep Learning technologies to detect GRBs in the data (time series and sky maps) acquired by the detectors on board the AGILE space missions. New phase of scientific work on the satellite legacy data archive in progress.
- Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) to detect GRBs inside the AGILE-GRID counts maps when an external science alert is received. The CNN detected 21 GRBs in the AGILE/GRID data with a sigma > 3 from the list of GRBs obtained with Fermi and Swift catalogs, outperforming the Li&Ma on the same list and with the same parameters: Parmiggiani N., Bulgarelli A., Fioretti V. et al., A Deep Learning Method for AGILE/GRID Gamma-ray Bursts detection, ApJ, 914, (2021)

Recent papers:

- Parmiggiani N. et al., A Deep-learning Anomaly-detection Method to Identify Gamma-Ray Bursts in the Ratemeters of the AGILE Anticoincidence System, ApJ 945, (2023)
- Parmiggiani N. et al., A New Deep Learning Model to Detect Gamma-Ray Bursts in the AGILE Anticoincidence System, ApJ 973, (2024)
- In progress: GRB localization (Parmiggiani); A new DL Model for GRB lc simulation (R. Falco), Quantum Machine Learning (A. Rizzo).







AGILE FRB studies

See Claudio Casentini talk on Wed, Sep 25 at 14:51 !!!

RICAP-24 Session: Searches for Extragalactic astrophysical sources: Sala Vanvitelli (14:00 - 17:30)

Paper	Production	Sign in	Sub.	Sub. to	Revision 1	Revision 2	Accepted for publication	Published
Casentini et al.	1	1		ApJL	1	1	1	
Tavani et al.	/	1	1	ApJL	/	1	1	1
Pilia et al. (SRT coll. paper)	1	1		ApJL			√	1
Tavani et al.	/	/	/	Nature astronomy	/	/	/	
Verrecchia et al.	1	1	/	ApJ		-	1	1

5 AGILE papers on FRB science published up to now:

- 1. Casentini et al., ApJL 2020: paper on two low IGM-DM repeaters, FRB180916.J0158+65 and FRB181030.J1054+73. (New paper on AGILE monitoring of R-FRB in progress)
- 2. Tavani et al., ApJL 2020: paper on the periodic R-FRBs: FRB20180916B. MW campaign with all AGILE detectors and Swift
- 3. Pilia et al., ApJL 2020, SRT Collaboration Paper on the periodic FRB 180916: The Lowest-frequency Fast Radio Bursts at 328 MHz
- 4. Nature Astronomy: "An X-ray burst from a magnetar enlightening the mechanism of fast radio bursts", Tavani et al. 2021. First correlation between an FRB-like radio burst and an X-ray flare from SGR 1935+2154
- 5. Verrecchia et al., ApJ 2021: search for HE counterparts in the AGILE data from sources in FRBCAT and TNS catalogues (89 sources included, 10 R-FRB)

AGILE and Gravitational Waves

AGILE and GW

See Francesco Verrecchia talk on Tue (today), Sep 24 at 14:00 !!!

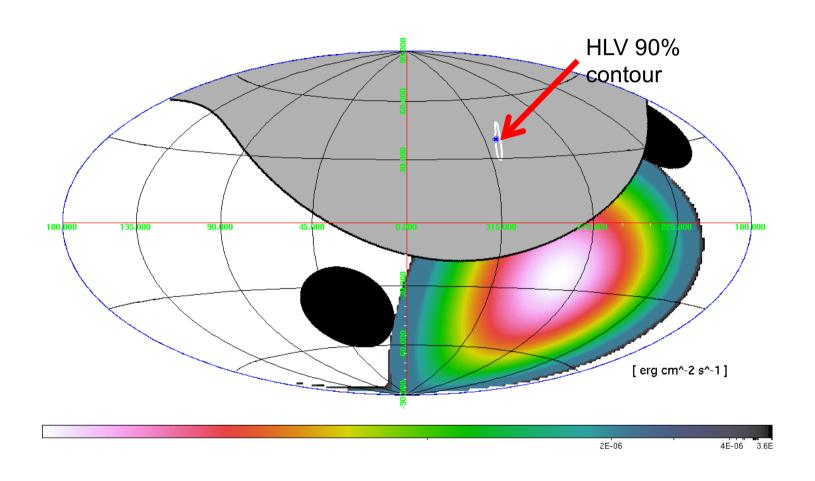
RICAP-24 Session: Astrophysical Multimessenger techniques & observations - Sala Vittorio Emanuele (14:00 - 16:25)

- AGILE **unique** combination of two co-aligned X-ray and γ -ray imaging detectors. Excellent for GW counterpart search.
- GRID very large field of view (2.5 sr)
- Spinning observation mode: ~200 passes/day over more than 80% of the sky (solar panel constraints).
- Sensitivity ~ (1-2) 10⁻⁸ erg cm⁻² s⁻¹ in 100 sec.
- Also two non-imaging detectors (4 π): MCAL (0.3 100 MeV), AC (50 keV 10 MeV)
- GRB like searches, MCAL, AC, RM

F. Verrecchia et al., AGILE review (2019) DOI:10.1007/s12210-019-00854-0



GW170817-GRB170817A NS-NS merger AGILE exposure at T0 (-2 / +2 sec): occulted by the Earth!



NS-NS merger **GW170817-GRB170817A**

- AGILE and GW170817: occulted at T0. Nevertheless: first γ-ray instrument above 100 MeV with exposure on the localization region starting at ~ T₀ + 935 s (F. Verrecchia et al., ApJL 850, 2017). (Fermi-LAT in SAA, follow up started at ~ T0 + 1153 s)
- AGILE limits on magnetar emission: AGILE UL sets important constraints in the early phases to exclude a highly magnetized magnetar for the remnant of GW170817- GRB170817
- AGILE completed its follow-up of all GW events up to the end of LVK O4a (first part) on Jan 16, 2024.
- AGILE observations provided the fastest response and the most significant upper limits above 100 MeV to all GW events detected up to now!!

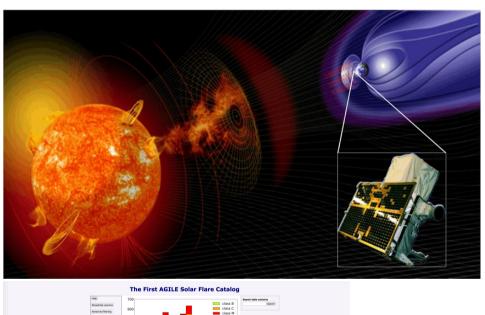
Last but not least: AGILE and Solar Flares

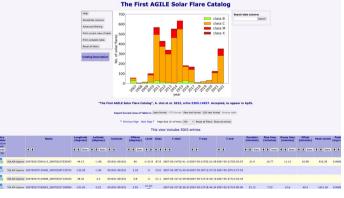
The First AGILE Catalog of Solar Flares: more than 15 years of observations

"The First AGILE Solar Flare Catalog", A. Ursi et al., ApJS 267, 2023

- Catalog of more than 5000 events from 2007 and 2022, all cross-related with the official GOES, RHESSI and Fermi GBM.
- More than 1400 new "AGILE only" events constituting a new dataset of solar flares detected in the hard X-ray energy band (80-200 keV).
- An on-line version of the AGILE solar flare catalog is available as an interactive web page at SSDC, providing access to additional data products (light curves, both in image and text format):

https://www.ssdc.asi.it/agilesolarcat/





THE AGILE LEGACY

AGILE archives and catalogs are available to the community through the ASI SSDC.

Science activities continue. We have just published on Feb. 29, 2024 all AGILE-GRID data up to January 15, 2024. A data reprocessing is in progress.

Open-source Python software package **Agilepy** (INAF-OAS) and/or **SSDC AGILE-LV3 online data analysis tool.**

With AGILE's re-entry, the in-orbit operational phase ended, but a new phase of scientific work on the satellite legacy data archive opens.

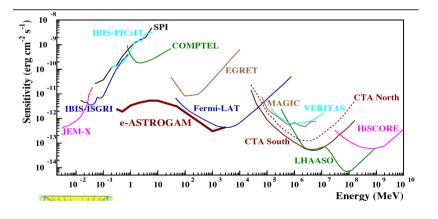
Work in progress on new catalogs with and without **Machine Learning** techniques. **Stay tuned for further results**.

Thank you AGILE!

Future prospects for MeV/GeV astronomy??? The e-ASTROGAM Proposal

A. De Angelis, V. Tatischeff, M. Tavani et al. ESA M7 2022: Not selected 😌

Compton scattering + Pair Tracking E = 0.3 MeV – 3 GeV ~ years 2030:
Complementary to observatories such as LIGO-Virgo-GEO600-KAGRA, SKA, ALMA, E-ELT, TMT, LSST, JWST, Athena, CTAO, IceCube, KM3NeT, LISA...





Looking forward to future opportunities in MeV/GeV astronomy in crucial synergy with future missions CTAO, ET, ATHENA, ...

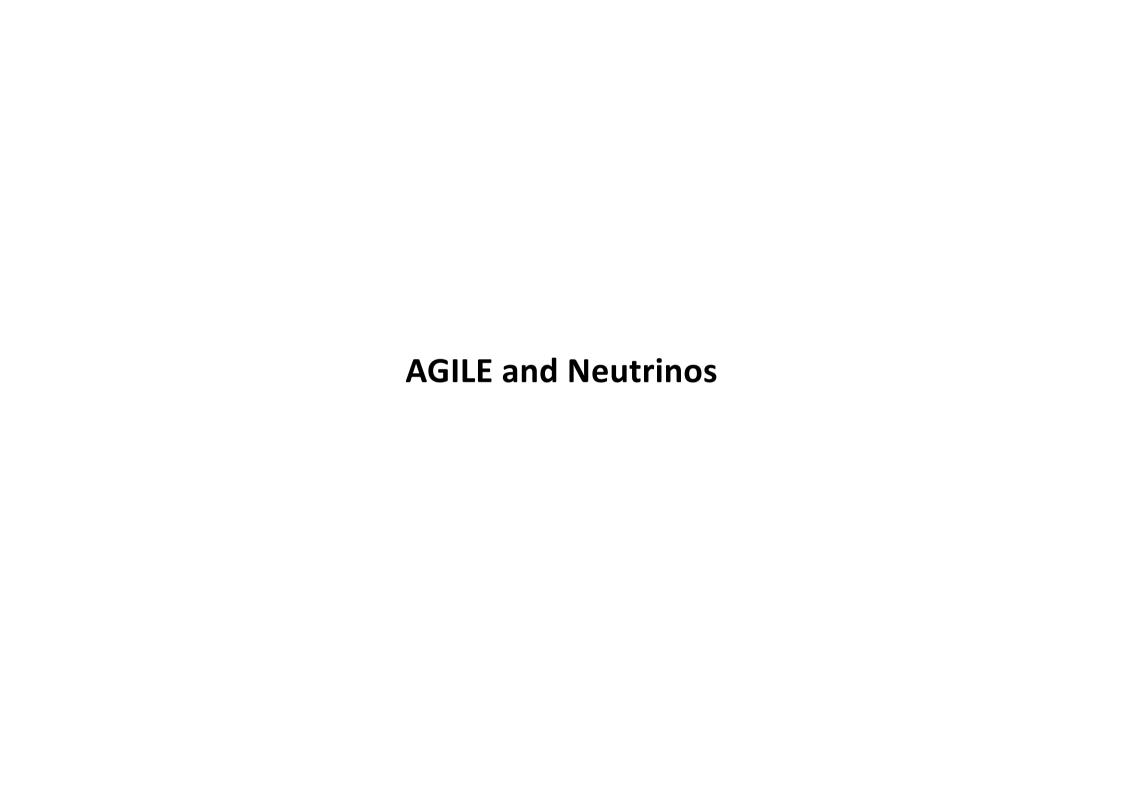


List of AGILE catalogs up to January 2024

https://agile.ssdc.asi.it/

Catalog Title	Description	Reference	Link
The 1st AGILE-GRID Catalog of High Confidence Gamma-ray Sources	Jul. 2007–Jun. 2008 47 Sources	(a)	1AGL
Monitoring the hard X-ray sky with SuperAGILE	Jul. 2007–Apr. 2009 53 Sources	(b)	1SA
The AGILE MCAL Gamma-ray Burst Catalog	Apr. 2007–Oct. 2008 84 Sources	(c)	1GRB
An updated list of AGILE bright γ -ray sources and their variability in pointing mode	Jul. 2007–Oct. 2009 54 Sources	(d)	1AGLR
Properties of Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes detected by AGILE MCAL below 30 MeV	Mar. 2009–Jul. 2012 308 Events	(e)	https://w
Enhanced detection of Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes by AGILE	MarJun. 2015 279 Events	(f)	2TGF
Search of MeV-GeV counterparts of TeV sources with AGILE in pointing mode	Jul. 2007–Oct. 2009 52 Sources	(g)	1ATEV
The 2nd AGILE Catalog of Gamma-ray sources AGILE in pointing mode	Jul. 2007–Oct. 2009 175 Sources	(h)	2AGL
On The High-Energy Spectral Component and Fine Time Structure of Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes	Mar–Jun. 2015 84 Events	(i)	1HETGF
The 3rd AGILE/MCAL TGF Catalog	Apr. 2007–Jun. 2022 5344 Events	(j)	3TGF
The 1st AGILE/MCAL GRB Catalog	Nov. 2007–Nov. 2020 503 Sources	(k)	2GRB
The 1st AGILE Solar Flare Catalog	May 2007–Aug. 2022 5003 Events	(1)	1SOL

(from Vercellone et al., Universe 2024)



IC-170922 MWL detections

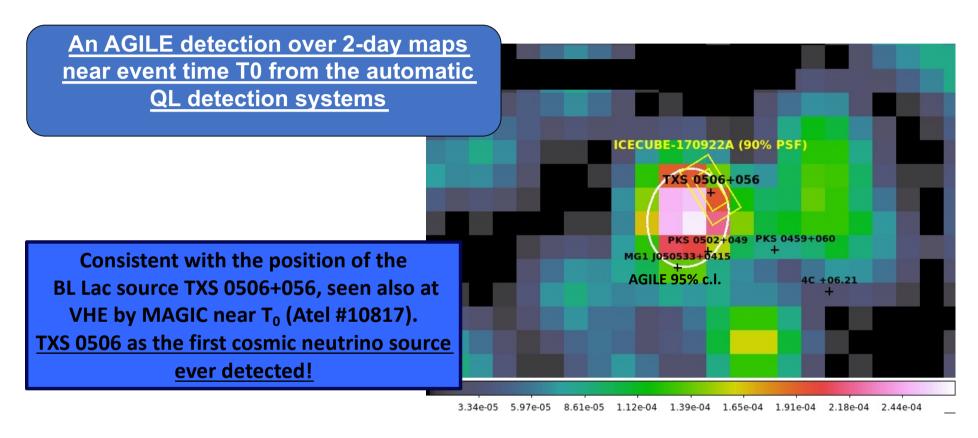
- EHE IceCube event announced on Sept. 22, 2017
- R.A., Decl. (J2000): (77.43, 5.72) deg
- HE γ -rays observed **both by AGILE and Fermi-LAT** consistent with the IceCube error box (ATels #10791 and #10801)
- VHE γ -rays observed by **MAGIC** a few days after the neutrino event T0 (ATeI #10817)

The blazar TXS 0506+056 (also known as a 3FGL and 3FHL source) inside the IceCube error region

→ Identification as the IC-170922 neutrino emitter

"Multimessenger observations of a flaring blazar coincident with high-energy neutrino IceCube-170922A", Science 361, 2018

AGILE observation of IC-170922

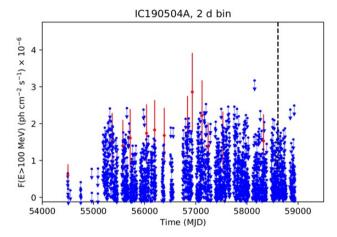


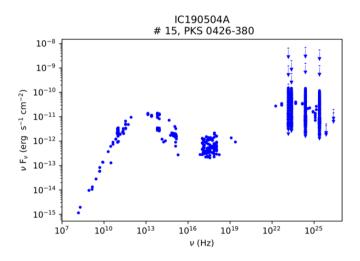
Blazars as possible neutrino sources! Further AGILE studies:

"AGILE Detection of Gamma-Ray Sources Coincident with Cosmic Neutrino Events", F. Lucarelli et al. ApJ 870, 2019
"Search for Gamma-Ray counterparts of IceCube neutrino events in the AGILE public archive": Master thesis by Elena Gasparri (2022). New paper in preparation.

UPDATE: Search for Gamma-Ray counterparts of IceCube neutrino events in the AGILE public archive

E. Gasparri, R. Poggiani, C. Pittori, F. Lucarelli, P. Giommi → See R. Poggiani talk @ TeVPa 2023





Blazars as possible neutrino sources.

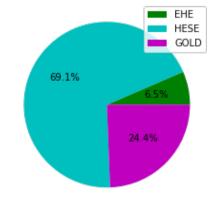
Master thesis by Elena Gasparri – Univ. Pisa (2022) - Paper in preparation

Analysis of 16 IceCube neutrino events from September 2018 to March 2020

- Full-mission (16 yrs) AGILE light curves using public data and AGILE-LV3 SSDC tool
- SED of identified candidates with VOU-Blazars
- 8/16 light curves show significant γ -ray detections ($\sqrt{TS} > 3$) within T₀ ± 1 year:
 - 2/3 EHE neutrinos (IC-180908A e IC-190503A)
 - 3/6 HESE neutrinos (IC-190104A, IC-190221A, IC-190504A)
 - 3/7 GOLD neutrinos (IC-190619A, IC-190922A, IC-191001A)
 - 2/16 light curves with association to 2AGL catalog sources







Candidate AGILE detections vs. neutrino event type

Future prospects for MeV/GeV astronomy

