

VHE binary systems with MAGIC+LST and a brief introduction to SII

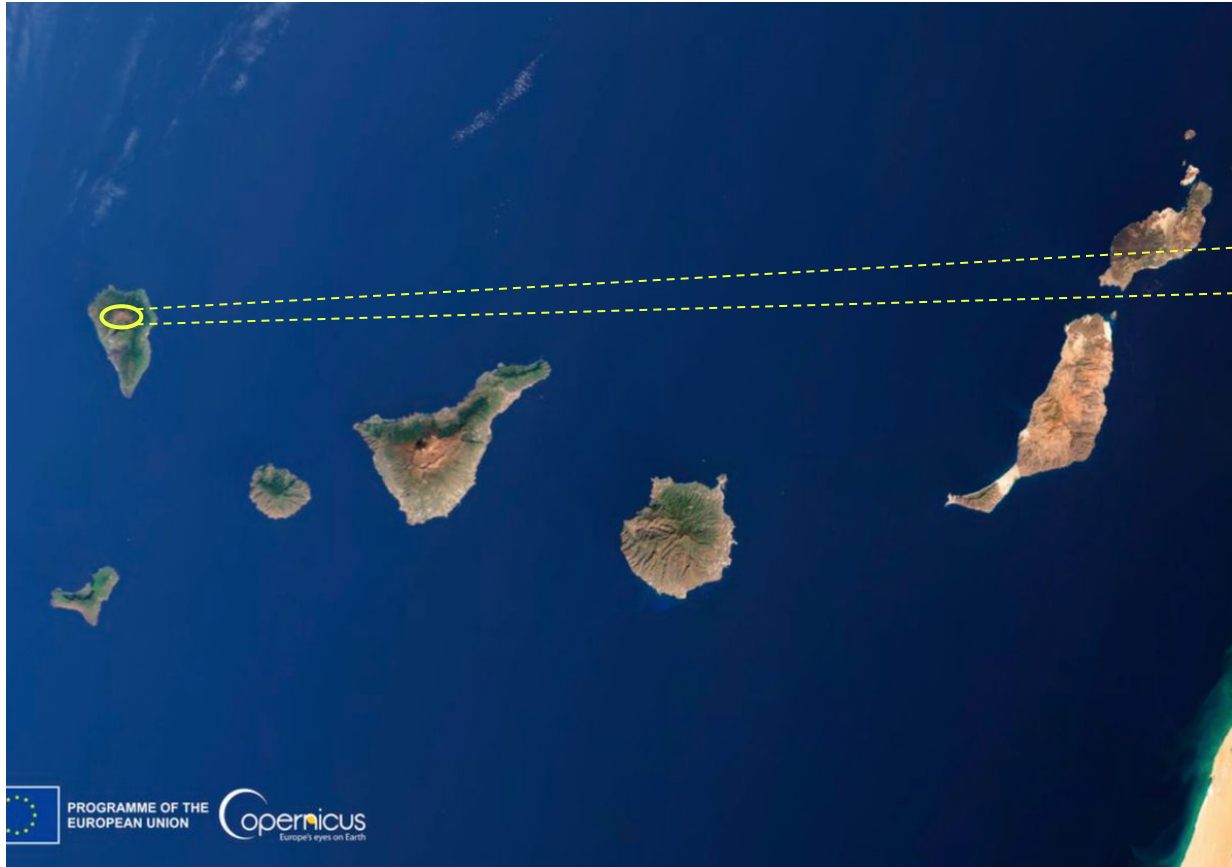
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Supervised by Alicia López Oramas and Juan Cortina Blanco at IAC

Sexten School - Advances in Modeling High Energy Astrophysical Sources

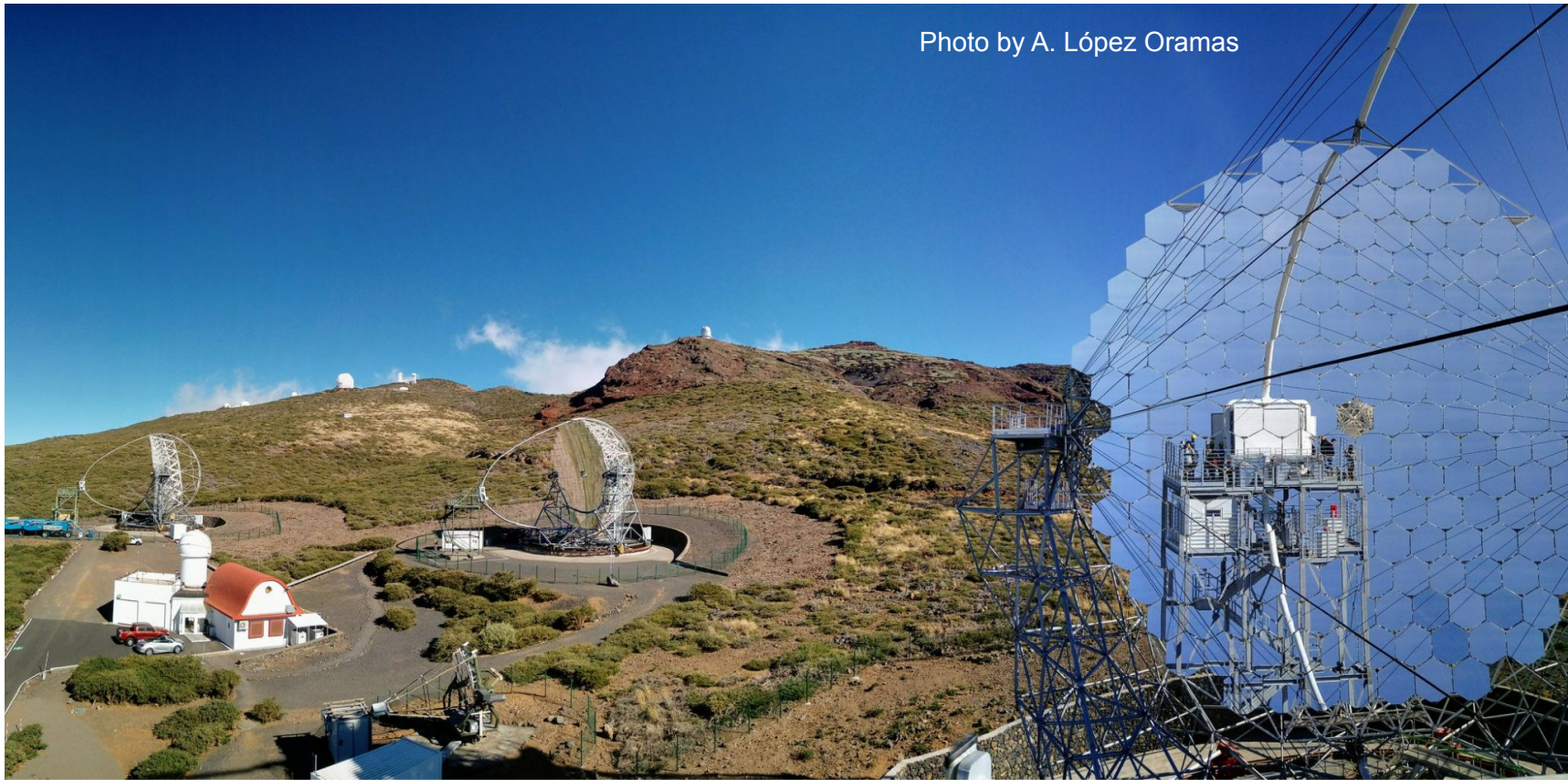
04th July 2025

The site: Observatorio Roque de los Muchachos (ORM) in La Palma



MAGIC and LST-1 at ORM

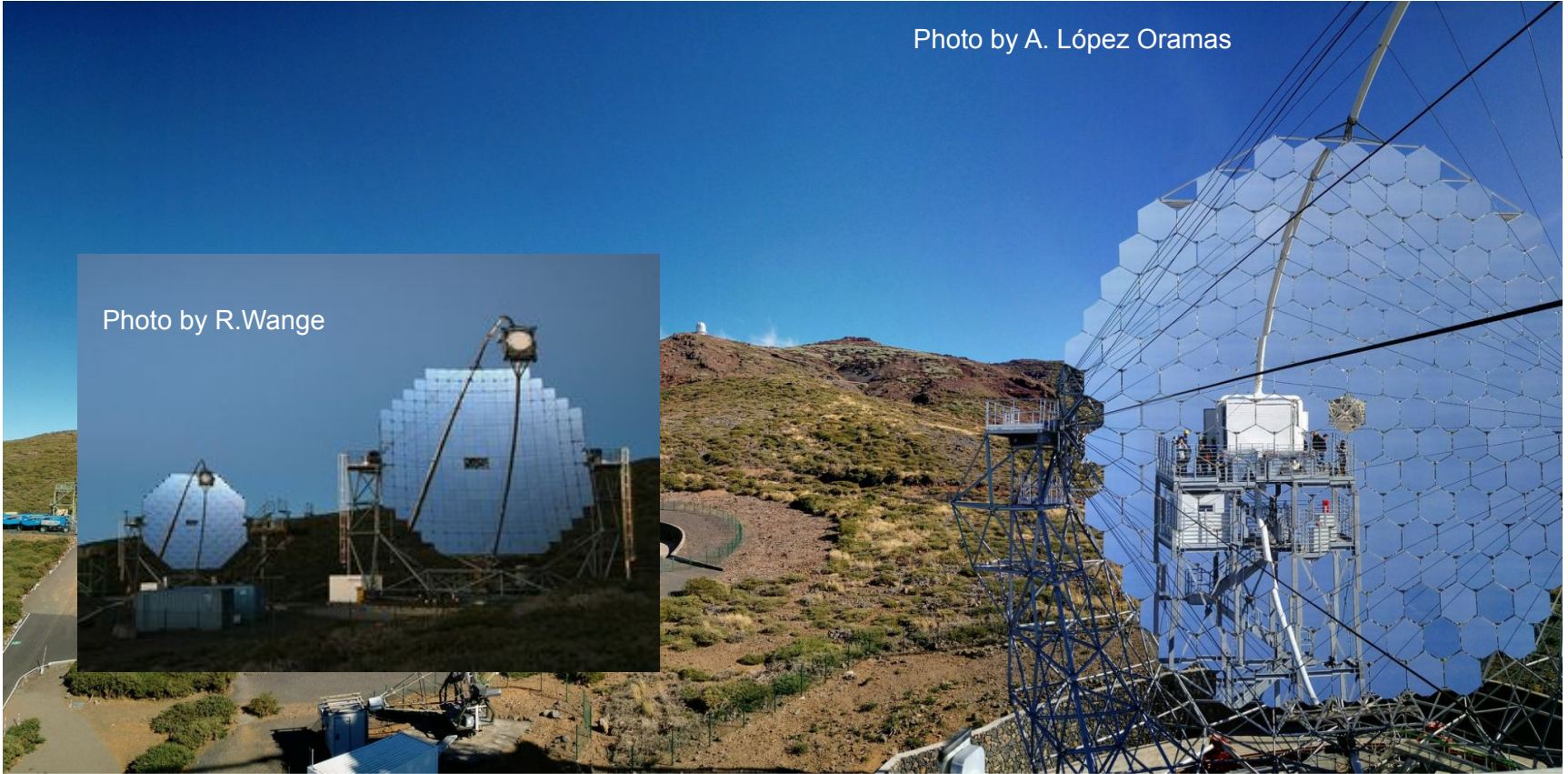
Photo by A. López Oramas



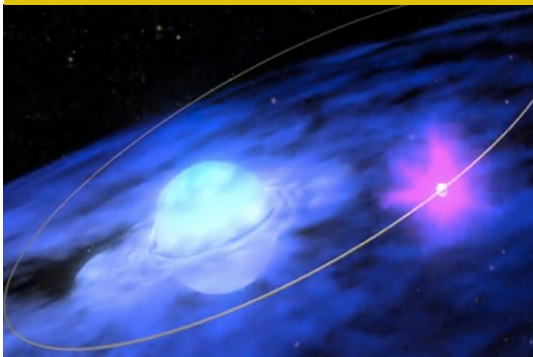
MAGIC and LST-1 at ORM

Photo by A. López Oramas

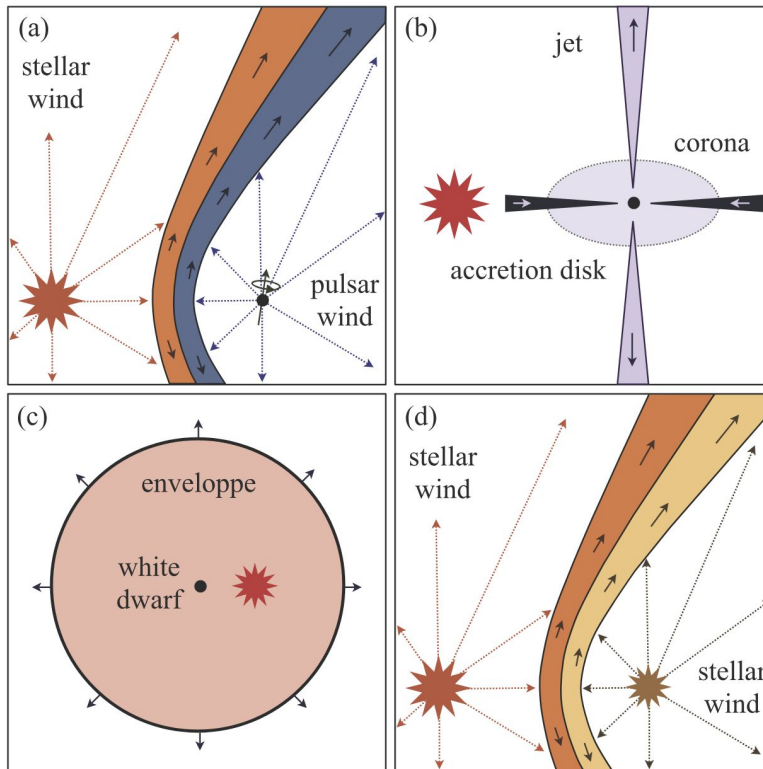
Photo by R.Wange



Non-accreting pulsars



VHE (>100 GeV) binary emitters



Microquasars



Novae

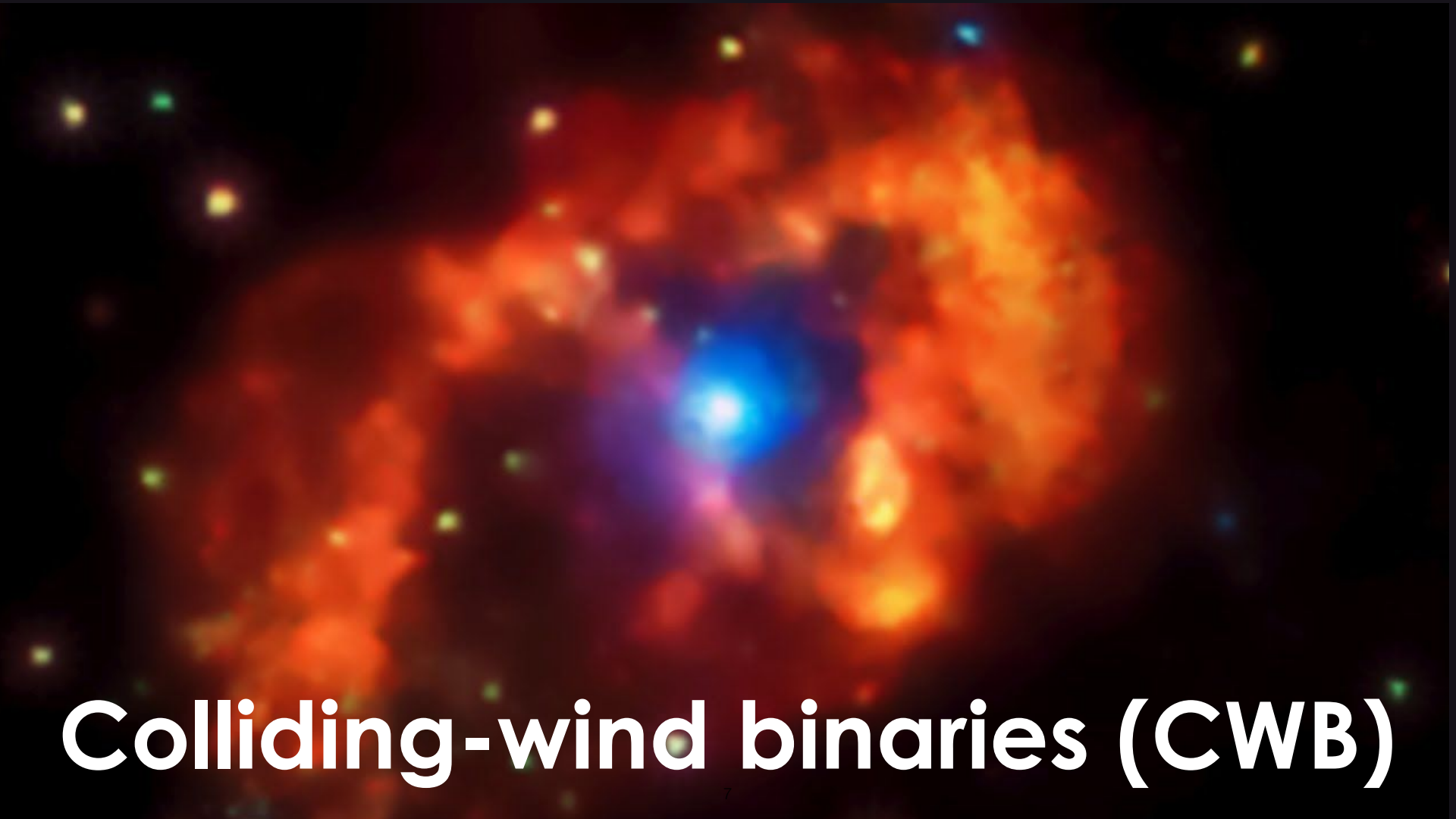


Colliding Wind Binaries



Gamma-loud binaries at VHE: state-of-the-art

	System	Star spectral type	Compact object	Porb [days]	HE emission	VHE emission	UHE emission
Gamma-ray binaries (non-accreting pulsars)	PSR B1259-63	O9.5Ve	48ms pulsar	1236.72	yes	yes	-
	LS 5039	O	pulsar?	3.91	yes	yes	yes (> 25 TeV)
	LS I +61 303	Be	pulsar	26.49	yes	yes	yes
	HESS J0632+057	Be	-	315.50	yes	yes	-
	FGL J1018.6-5856	O	-	16.58	yes	yes	-
	LMC P-3	O	-	10.20	yes	yes	-
	HESS J1832-093	O	-	82	yes	yes	-
	PSR J2032+4127	Be	143 ms pulsar	50 years	yes	yes	-
Microquasars	SS 433	A	BH	13.08	yes	yes	yes
	V4641 Sgr	B9III	BH	2.80	no	yes	yes
	GRS1915+105	K-M III	BH	33.85	no	yes	yes
	MAXI J1820+070	K	BH	0.69	no	yes	yes
	Cyg X-1	O9.7Iab	BH	5.60	yes	hint (4.0 σ)	hint (4.0 σ)
CWB	eta Carinae	LBV	O/B star	5.5 years	yes	yes	-
Novae	RS Ophiuchi	red giant	white dwarf	454	yes	yes	-

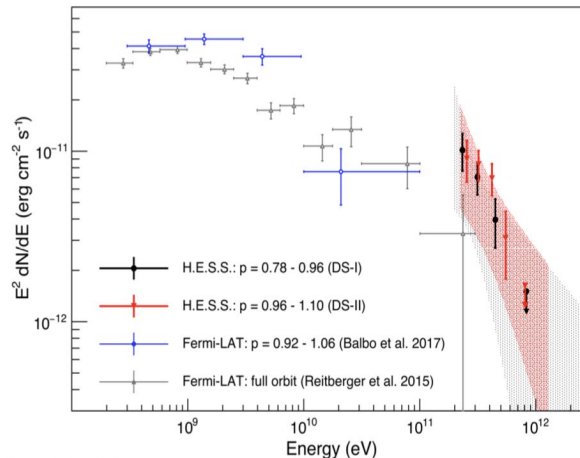
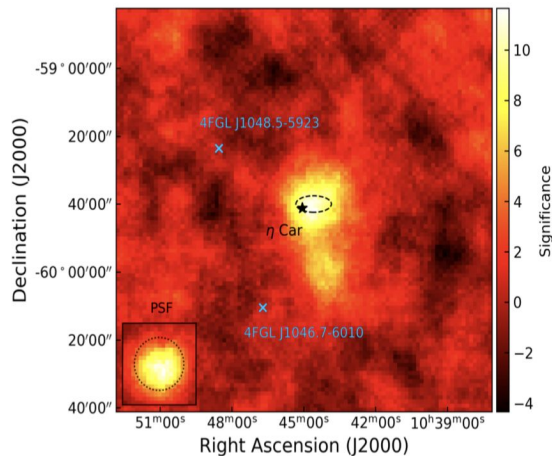


Colliding-wind binaries (CWB)

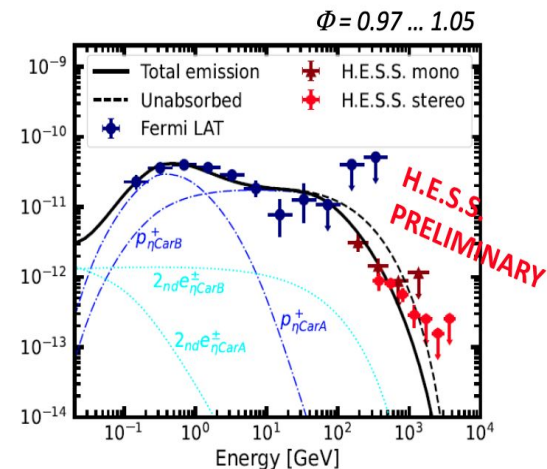
Eta Carinae, first CWB at VHE

- **Luminous Blue Variable** $\sim 100 M_{\odot}$ + **O- or B-type** $\sim 30 M_{\odot}$
 - eccentric orbit ($e \sim 0.9$) with a ~ 5.5 yr period (**last periastron passage**: February 2020)
 - high mass-loss rates
- **VHE emission** detected during **periastron passage** ([H.E.S.S. Coll 2020](#))
 - **2020 passage**: detected at energies 0.14 TeV **up to above 1 TeV** ([Steinmassl PoSiCRC 2023](#))
 - **Hadronic scenario**

2014

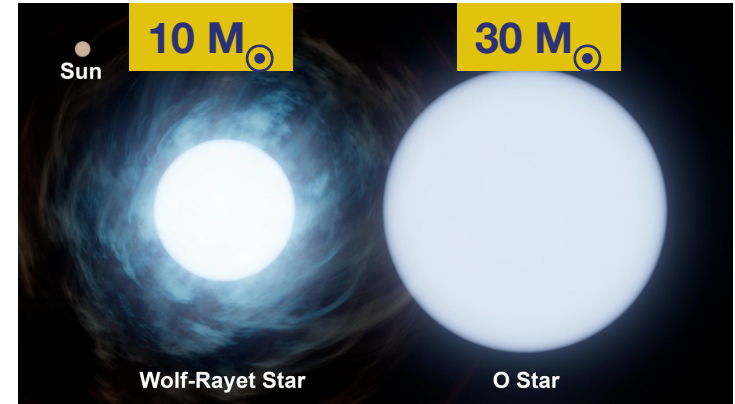
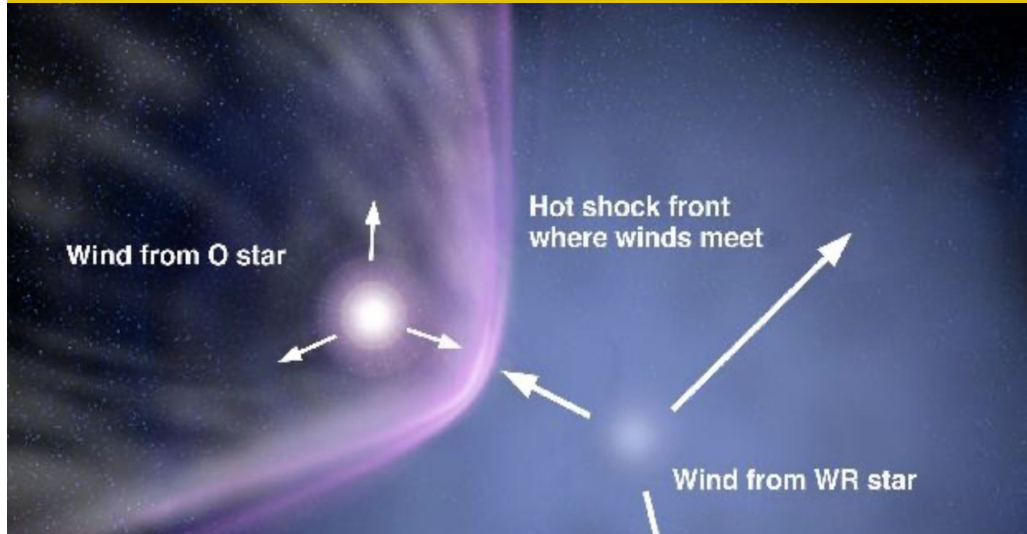


2020



WR 140, a CWB in the northern hemisphere

Objective: first CWB in the northern hemisphere and second CWB after Eta Carinae at VHE



period 7.9 yr, $e \sim 0.9$

Simbad

Other ID: HD193793
RA (J2000): 20 20 27.98
DEC (J2000): +43 51 16.28
distance (pc): 1810

Spectral type(s): WC7 + O5

Multiplicity:

Confirmed binary system
Period(s): 7.9 yr
Orbital solution: yes
Ref: Marchenko et al.(2003), Fahed et al.(2011)

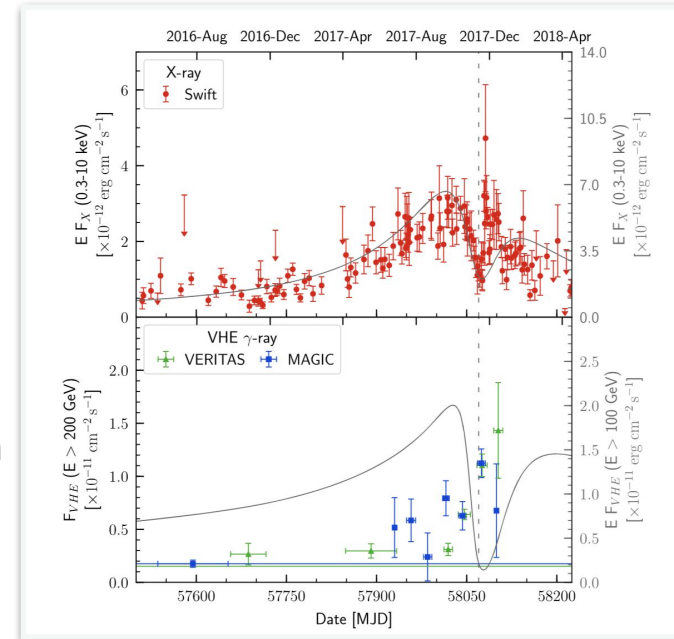
WR 140 MAGIC+LST-1 campaign

Critical configurations of WR 140 in 2024-25

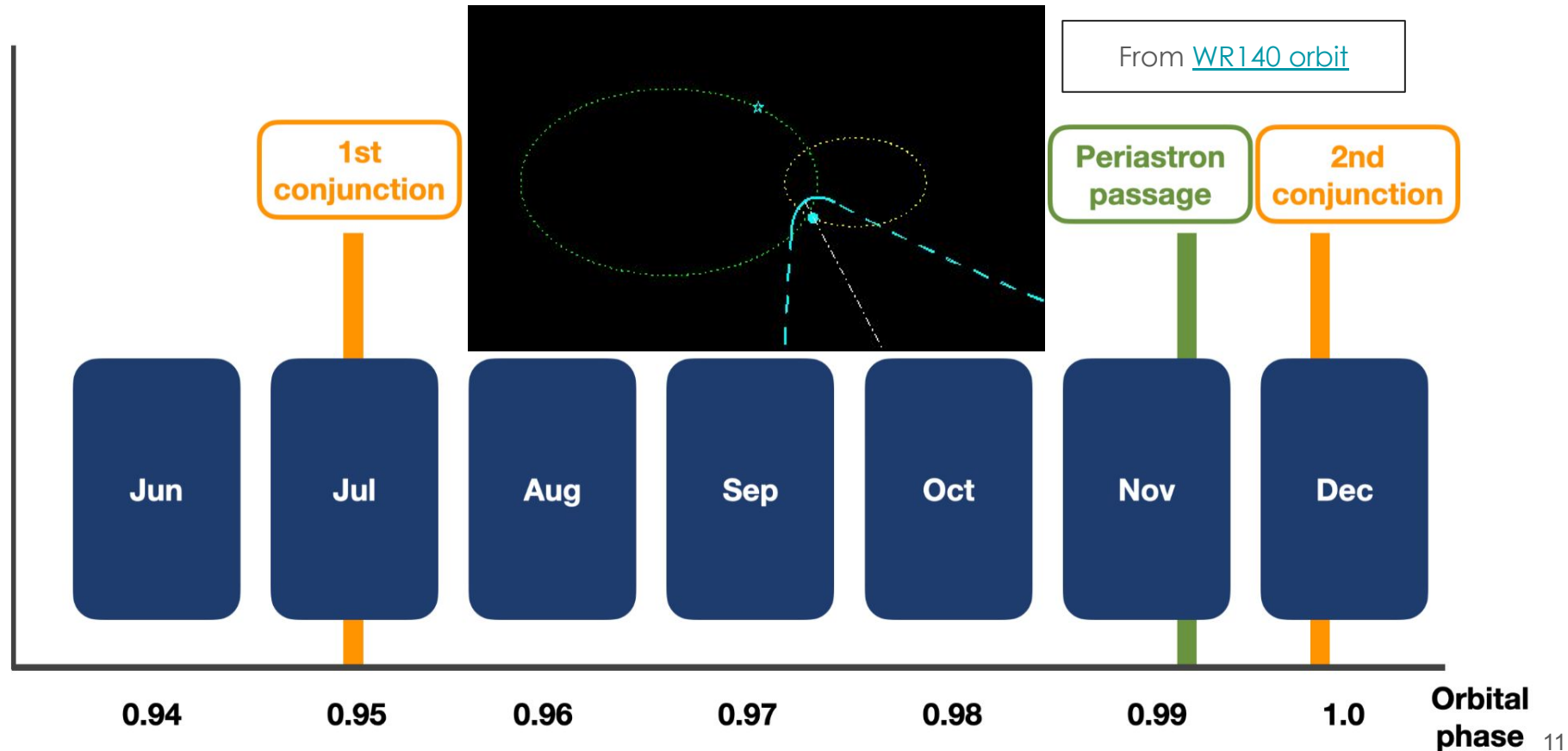
Orbital phenomenon	f	r/a	P.A.	pos	ψ	MJD	Year	Date
conjunction: WC star behind	223	0.56	84	E	30	60506	2024.54	July 15
quadrature	313	0.12	354	N	90	60626	2024.86	Nov 12
periastron passage	0	0.10	327	NW	129	60637	2024.89	Nov 23
conjunction: O star behind	42	0.12	263	W	150	60645	2024.91	Dec 1
quadrature	133	0.51	174	S	90	60751	2025.21	Mar 17

- **Start** of the monitorization in June 2024
- **Increasing cadence** after each orbital phenomenon
- **Quadrature not visible** due to Moon brightness
- **Not visible** anymore **after second conjunction**

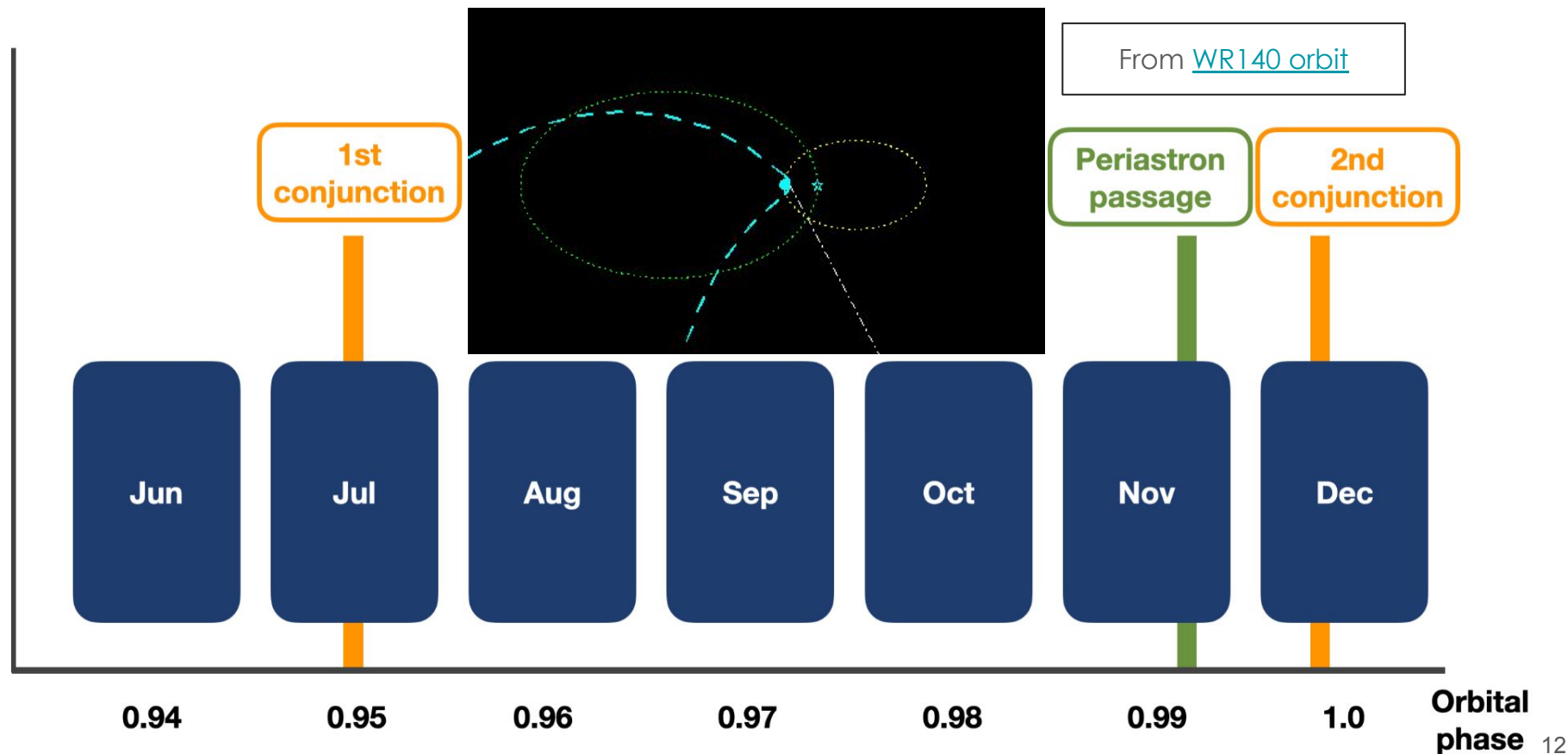
PSRJ2032 ([Abeysekara et al. 2018](#))



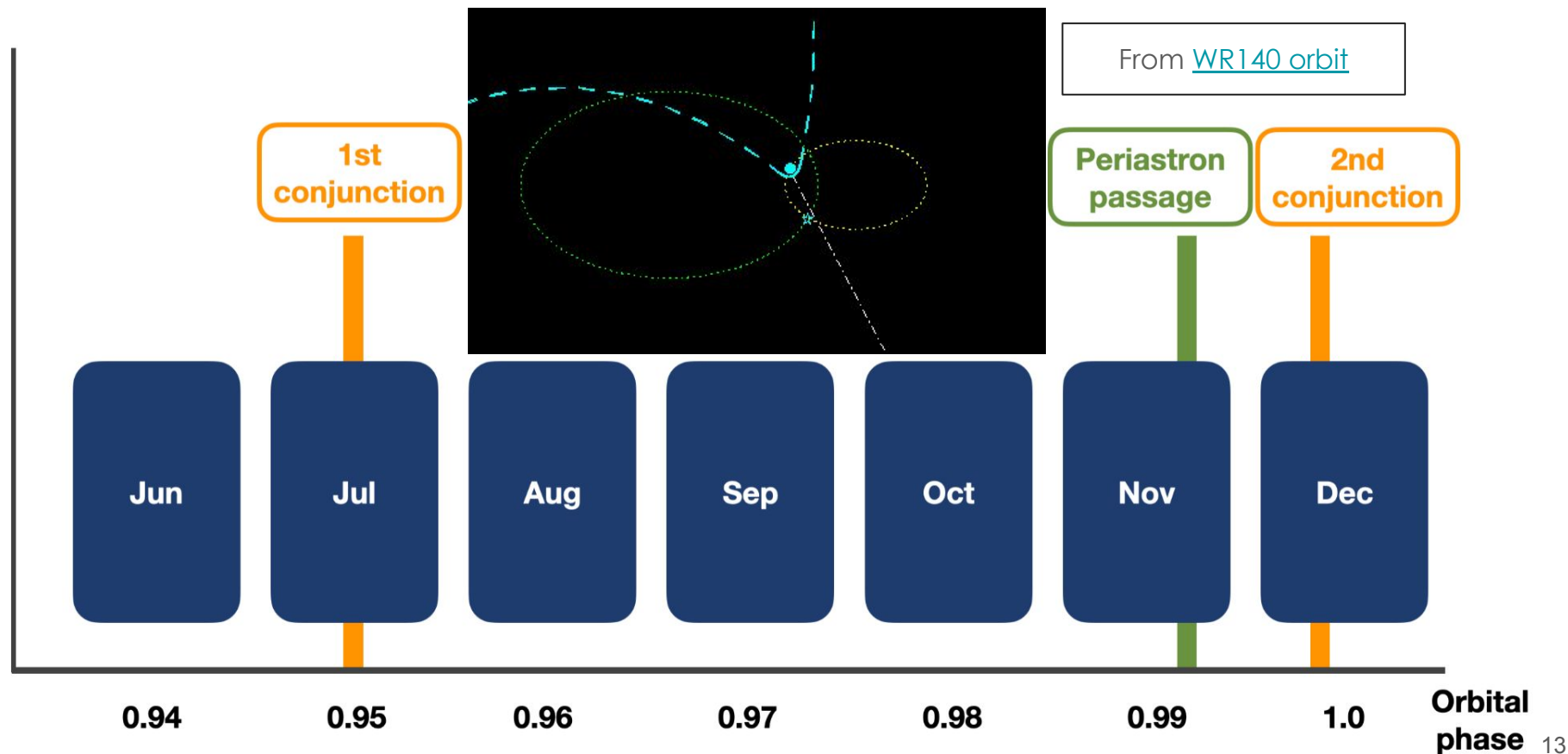
First gamma-ray campaign for WR140



First gamma-ray campaign for WR140



First gamma-ray campaign for WR140



VHE binary emitters. Take home message

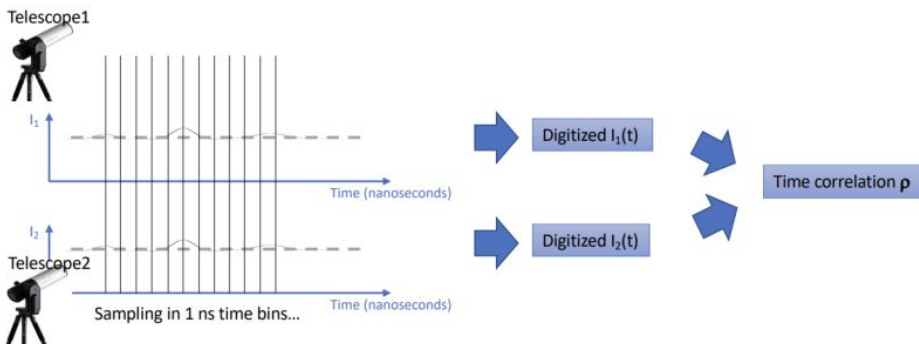
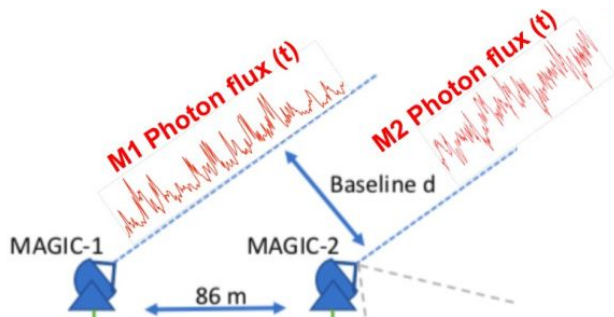
- Few gamma-ray binaries with variable emission at VHE
- Most detected ones had short orbital periods (\sim days).
 - CWB several years: Eta Carinae \sim 5.5 years and WR140 \sim 8 years
- Designing the **observational campaigns** is crucial part of the work
- Combination with Fermi-LAT for long-time integrated campaigns:
 - Fermi-LAT detected Eta Carinae in 2009 at HE (from 100 MeV to 100 GeV)
with \sim 1 year data and VHE after integrating data over 3 periastron passages
- More information: [VHE Galactic sources Seminar](#) by A. López Oramas



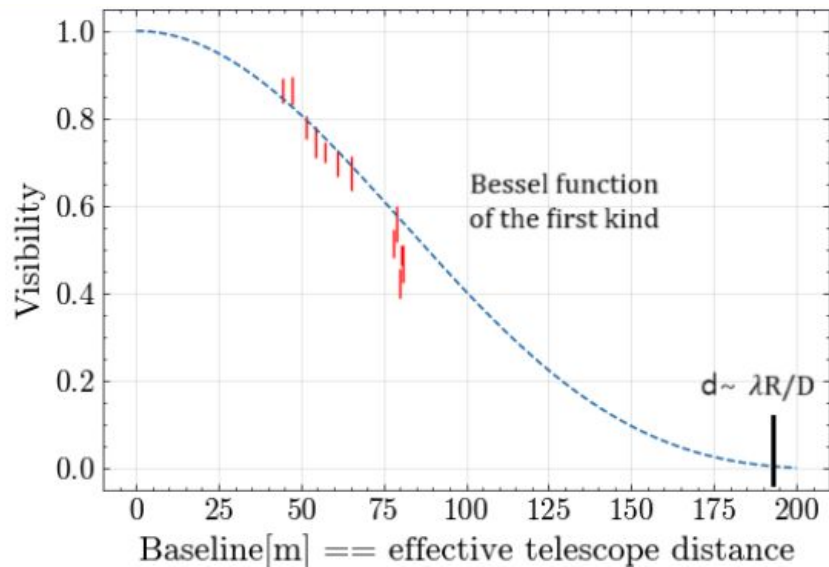
Stellar Intensity Interferometry (SII)

Intensity Interferometry: time correlation of detected photons

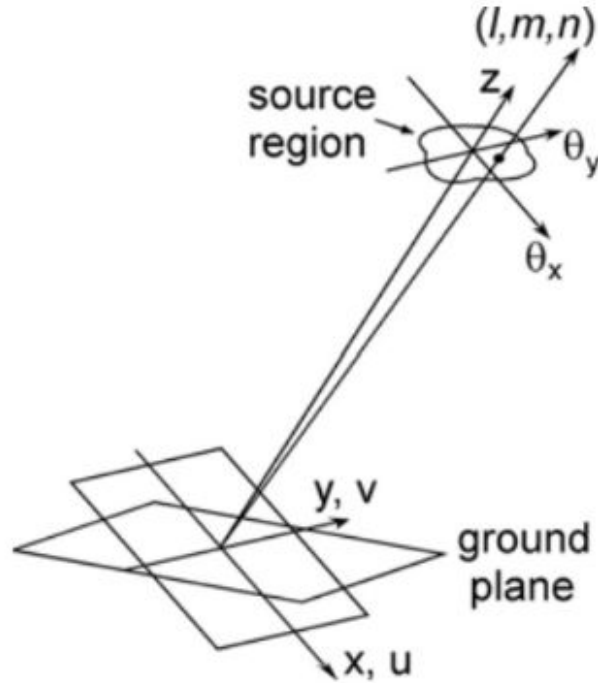
- **Van Cittert–Zernike theorem:** if you **measure** spatial coherence of the light waves it tells you information about the Fourier transform of the source's brightness.



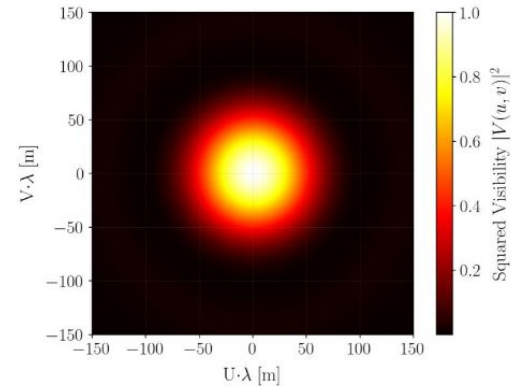
- SII is not limited by the moonlight and changing from gamma-ray to SII mode is very fast in both MAGIC and LST



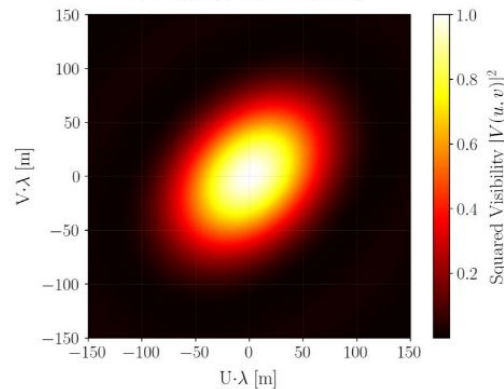
The UV plane



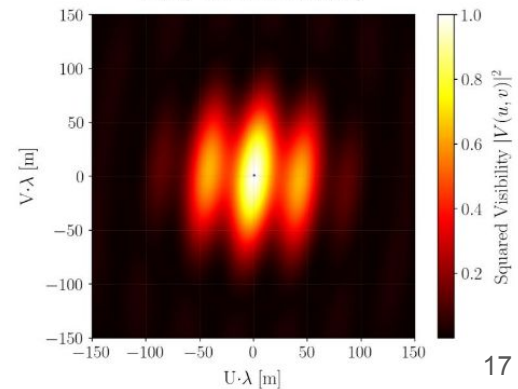
UD model visibility



Fast Rotator model visibility

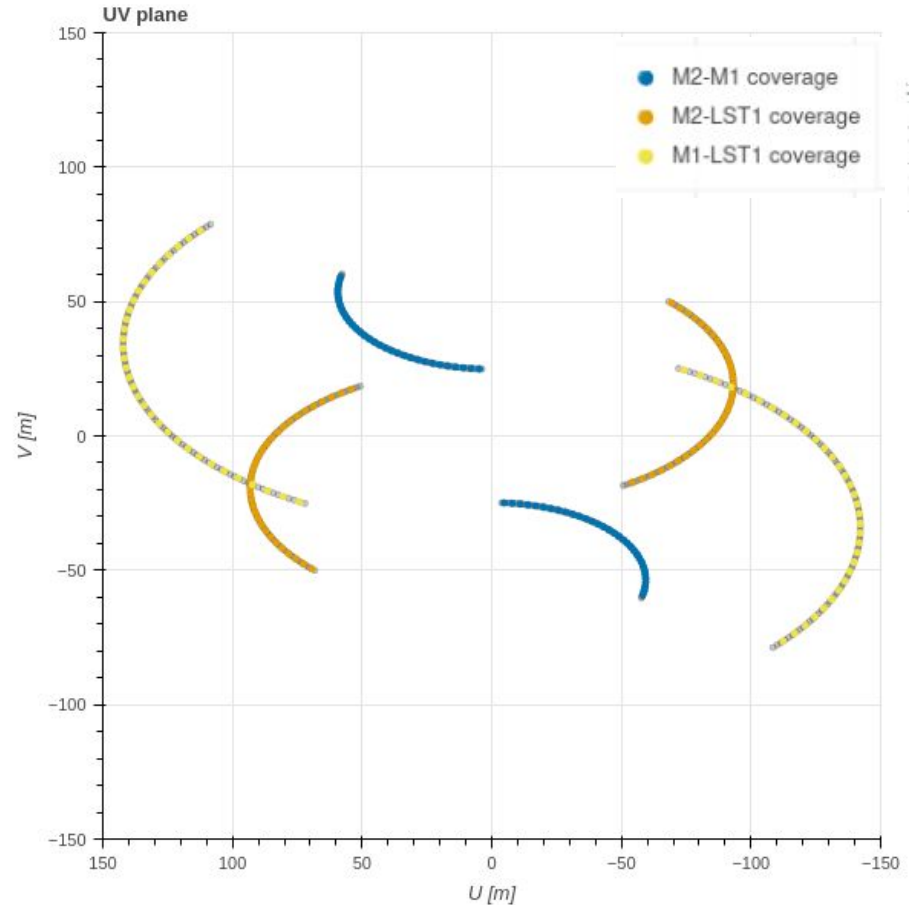
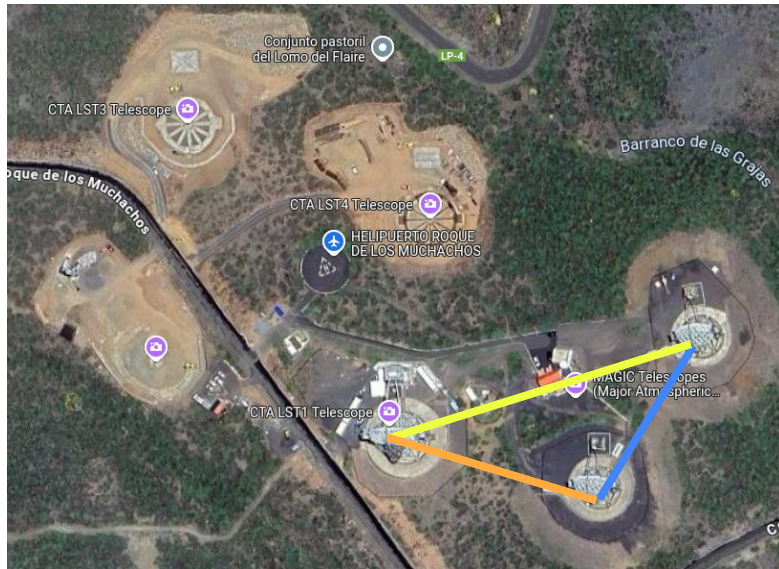


Binary star model visibility



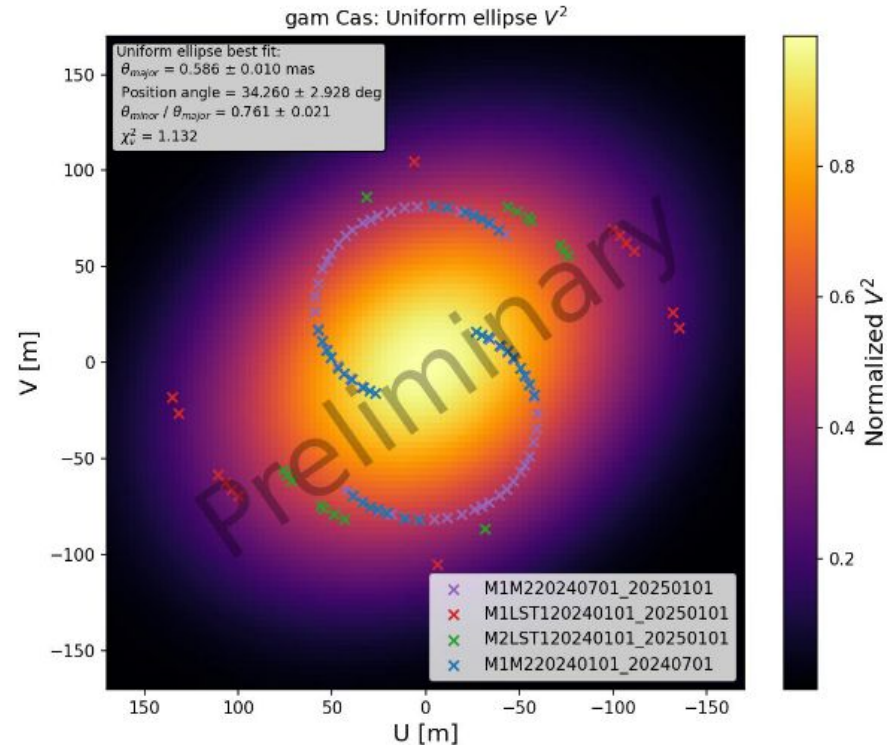
MAGIC+LST Stellar Intensity Interferometer

- 3 pairs available
- 15 pairs combining MAGIC with the 4 LSTs



Fast rotators with MAGIC+LST SI Interferometer

- Some results already presented by A. Cifuentes last week at EAS in the Symposium “The future of visible/infrared High-Angular Resolution Astronomy in Europe”
- It shows the importance of having several pairs of telescopes in terms of UV plane coverage

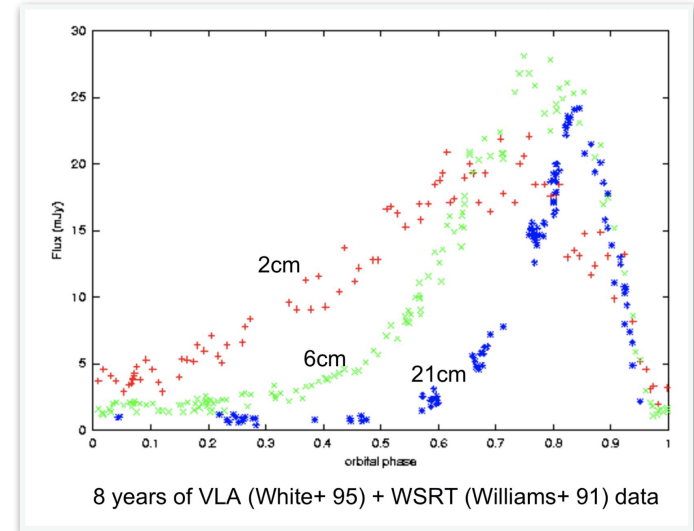
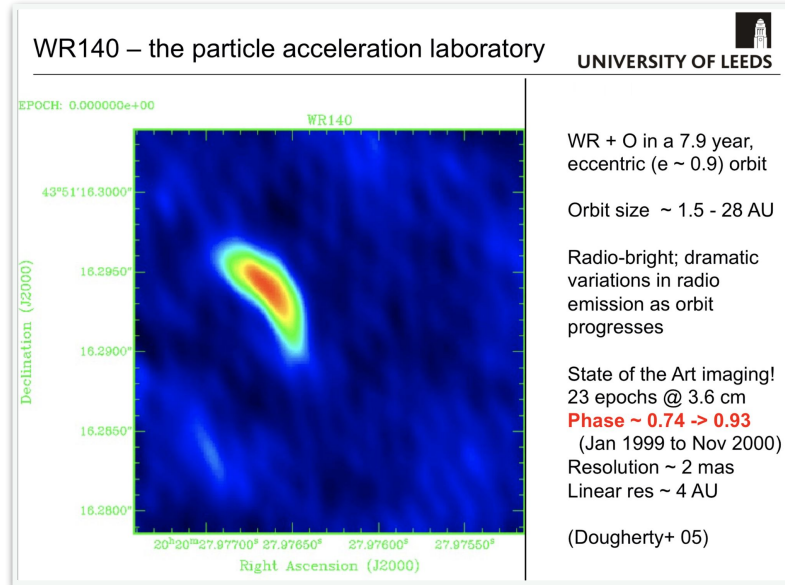


SII. Take home message

- IACTs are great instruments that have relaunched this technique
- Different science scenarios
 - Fast rotators
 - Resolving binary systems
 - Asteroseismology
- SII observations do not interfere with gamma-ray observations
- With more telescopes (more pairs) and technical upgrades, much more science to be done.
- More information: [SII Seminar](#) by J. Cortina and MAGIC Stellar Intensity Interferometer Performance [paper](#).

Backup

WR140: Radio campaign



[Pittard \(VGGRS 2010\)](#)

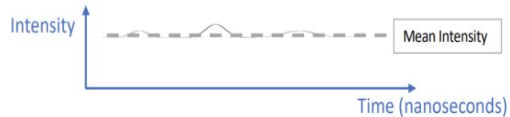
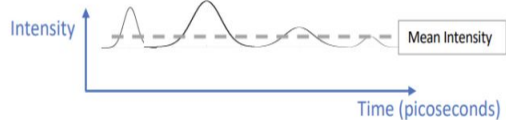
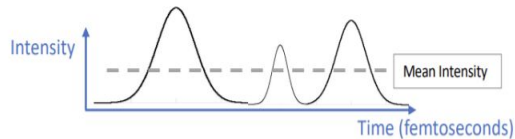
SII: coherence region

d , spatial coherence length, follows:

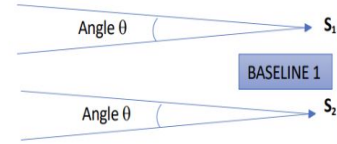
$$d \sim \lambda \cdot R/D$$

R : distance to the source

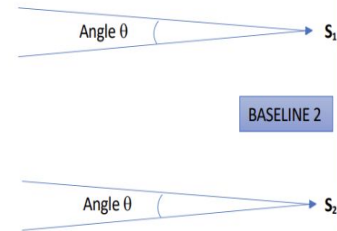
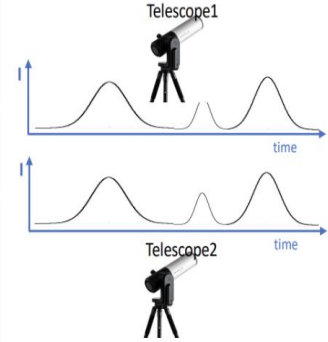
D : physical diameter of the source



Always some modulation but relative amplitude get smaller and smaller with time scale



Small baseline:
Same time evolution at both points:
Strong correlation between waveforms: $\rho \gg$



As baseline increases:
Time pattern starts to change...
Time correlation degrades

