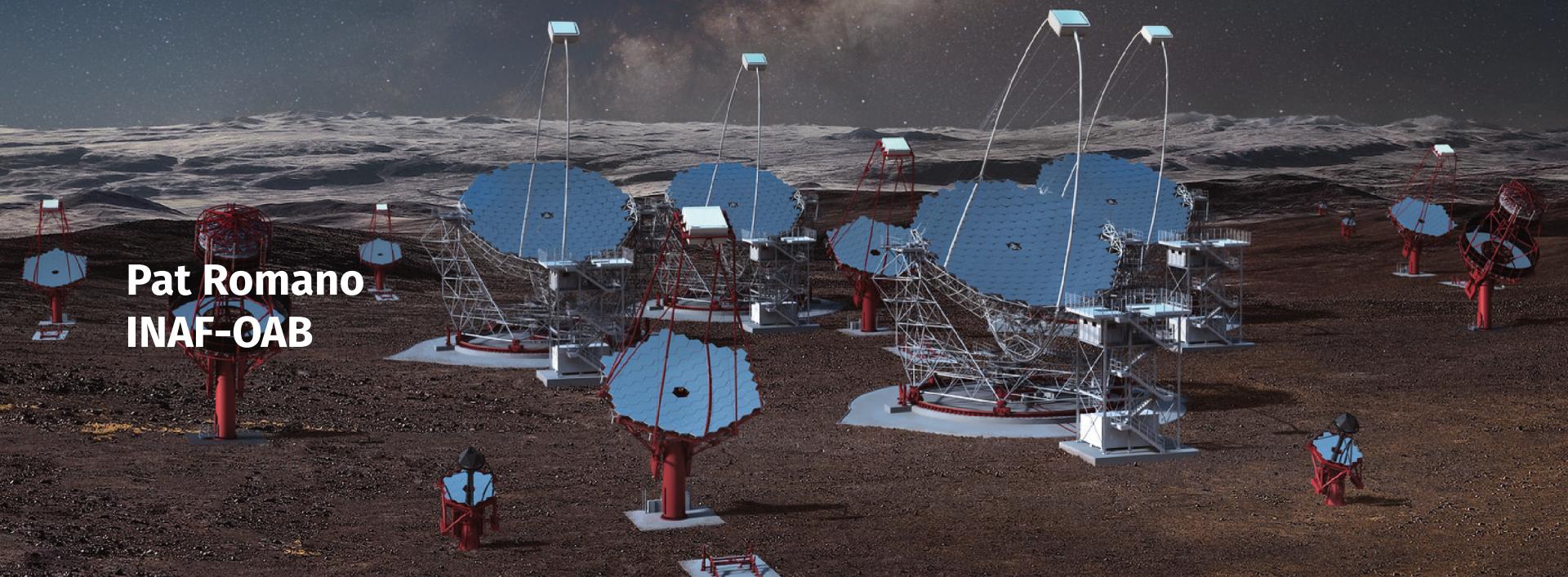




cherenkov  
telescope  
array

# CTA Extragalactic Science

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# Outline



- CTA Key Science Projects
- Extragalactic Working Group Task Forces:
  - goals, results, contact points
- OAS involvement & Publishing with CTA

# CTA Key Science Projects

- Focused on **major legacy projects**: surveys & population studies (providing legacy data-sets), large classes of sources, and a few iconic objects
- Large **potential for guest observer proposals** – building on results from the KSP surveys

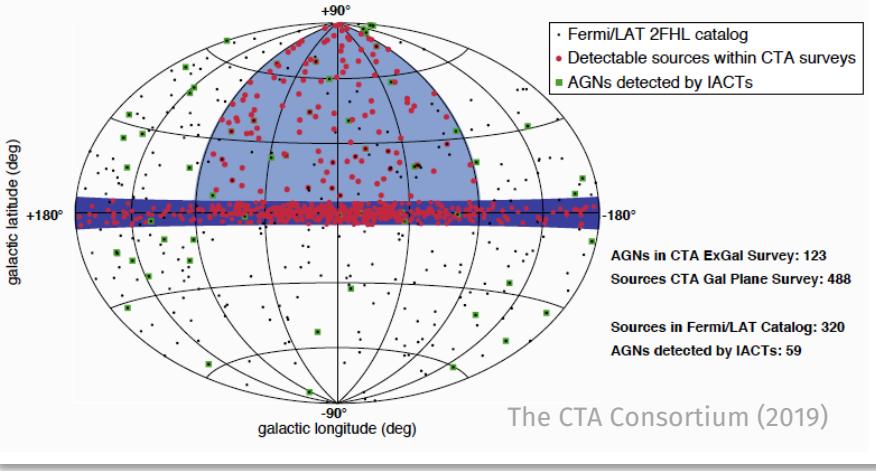


The CTA Consortium, 2019, World Scientific  
<https://doi.org/10.1142/10986>

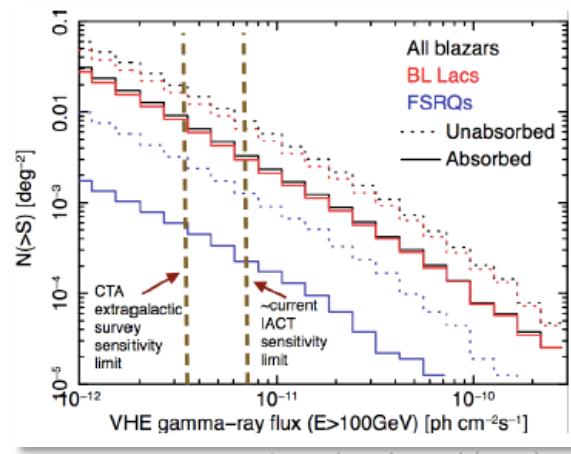
# EGAL Survey



1/4 of the sky ( $\sim 10^4$  deg $^2$ ) Limiting flux  $\sim 5$  mCrab



About  $O(100)$  sources in 10,000 deg $^2$



Several highly interesting regions such as the **Virgo & Coma clusters**, the **Fermi Bubbles** (North) and **Cen A** (South) will be covered by the proposed survey.

# AGNs



Credits: ESA/NASA

**AGNs** are known to emit **variable radiation** across the entire electromagnetic spectrum up to multi-TeV energies, with fluctuations **on time-scales** from **several years** down to **a few minutes**.

**VHE observations of active galaxies** harbouring super-massive black holes and ejecting relativistic outflows represent a unique tool to probe the **physics of extreme environments**, to obtain precise measurement of the **extragalactic background light (EBL)** and to constrain the strength of the **intergalactic magnetic field (IGMF)**.

AGNs will be useful to investigate fundamental physical phenomena such as the **Lorentz invariance violation (LIV)** and signatures of the existence of **axion-like particles (ALP)**.

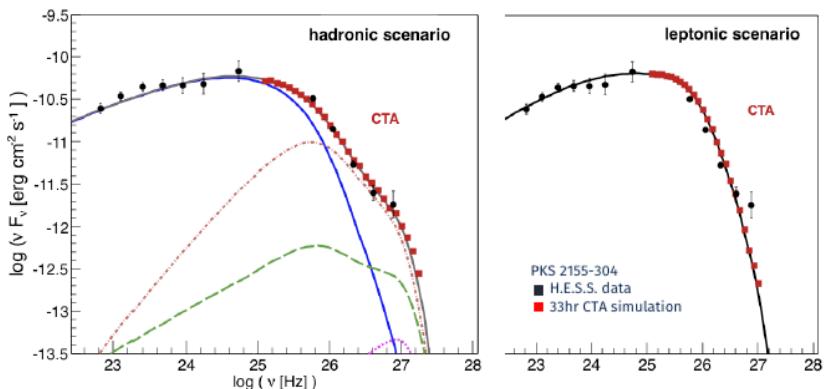
## AGN KSP involves 3 observing programs:

Long term monitoring, high quality spectra (z,type), flare search/follow-up

# AGNs – PKS 2155-304



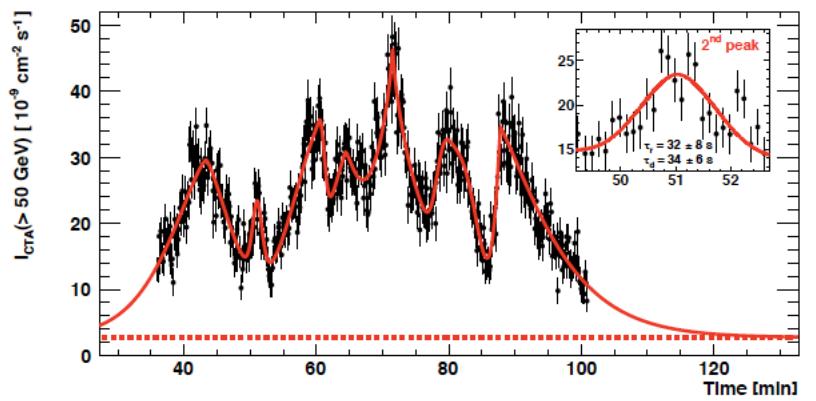
## Testing emission scenarios



Zech A., et al., (2017) & The CTA Consortium (2019)

A set of **high-quality spectra** from different blazar types and different redshifts is needed to **unambiguously distinguish intrinsic spectral features**, such as shown here, **from external absorption**.

## Testing variability



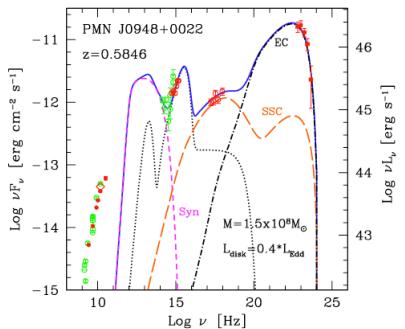
The CTA Consortium (2019)

Sampling blazar fluxes put strong constraints on the bulk Doppler factor, as well as on particle acceleration and cooling processes.

# AGNs in the corner: $\gamma$ -NLS1s

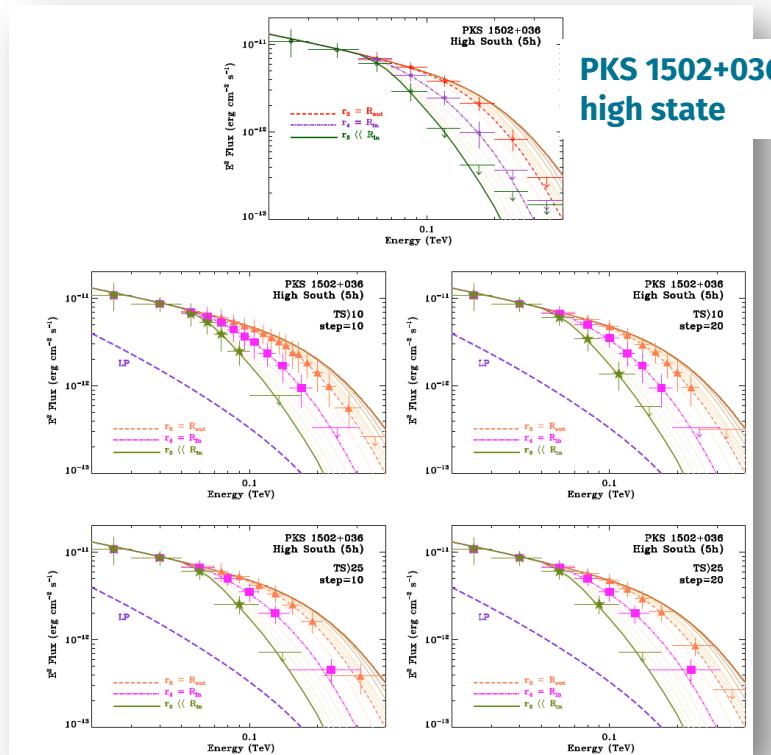


Blazar-like SED  
with variable  $\gamma$ -ray  
emission.



Abdo et al., 2009, ApJ, 699, 976

- Strong  $\gamma$ -ray flares, on time-scale of the order of a few hours/days
- The high-state activity can last for several weeks/months, repeated on a multi-year baseline.

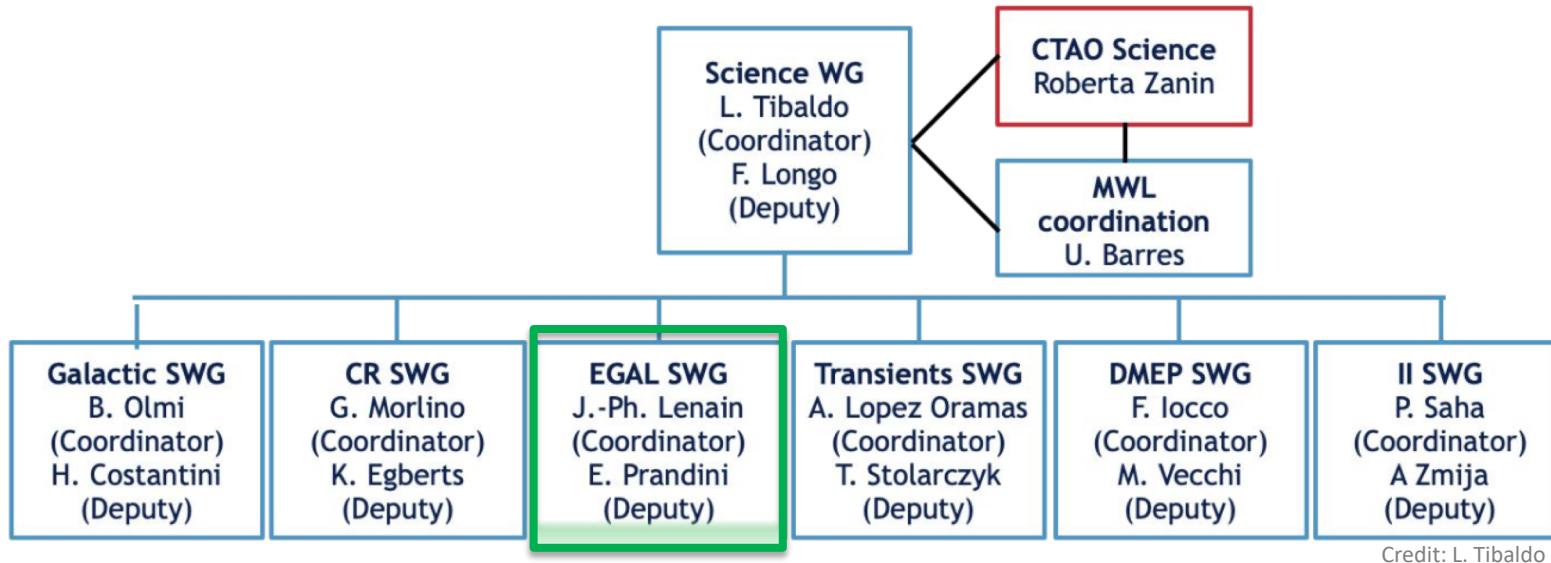


Romano et al., 2020, MNRAS, 494, 411

# EGAL WG Task Forces

What we really do these days

# CTA EGAL Working Group Task Forces



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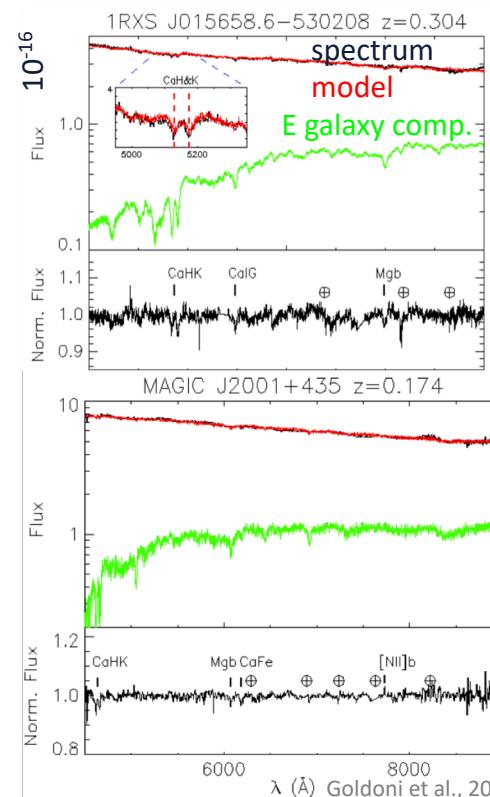
- **Goal:** measure redshifts for a sample of blazars expected to have a higher probability of being detected by CTA (non Consortium publication)
  - > 90 %  $\gamma$ -ray FSRQs have spectroscopic z,
  - Only ~44 %  $\gamma$ -ray BL Lacs have spectroscopic z (nearly featureless, continuum-dominated optical spectra)
- **Impact:**
  - EBL: lack of bright VHE blazars with redshift  $> 0.2\text{-}0.3$
  - AGN Population studies
- **Methods:** selection of 3FHL blazars with no z detectable in 30h by CTA (165)
  - Extended host?
    - Yes: Deep opt/NIR spectroscopy (NTT, Keck, SALT; S/N~100, R~1000-2000)
    - No: Deep opt/NIR imaging

## Results of Paper I

- 11/19 redshifts+1 tentative ( $0.112 < z < 0.482$ ;  $z_{\text{med}}=0.23$ )
- 2(3) spectroscopic lower limits ( $z > 0.868$ ;  $z > 0.449$ )
- Optical low state Keck observations of MAGIC J2001+435

Paper II (Kasai): SALT spectroscopy (25 src)

Paper III (Fallah Ramazani): imaging (25 src)



## Contacts and recent References:

Paolo Goldoni [goldoni@apc.univ-paris7.fr](mailto:goldoni@apc.univ-paris7.fr)

Goldoni et al., [2021, A&A, 650, A106](#) *Optical spectroscopy of blazars for the Cherenkov Telescope Array*

DOI

[10.5281/zenodo.4721386](https://zenodo.org/record/4721386)

[https://zenodo.org/record/4721386 - .Yp5UmhNBxUR](https://zenodo.org/record/4721386)

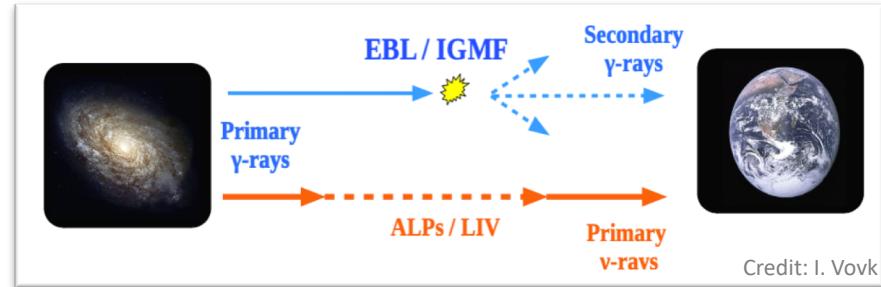
*Review of redshift values of bright AGNs with hard spectra in 4LAC catalog*

Kasai et al., [PoS\(ICRC2021\)881](#) *Southern African Large Telescope Spectroscopy of BL Lacs for the CTA project*

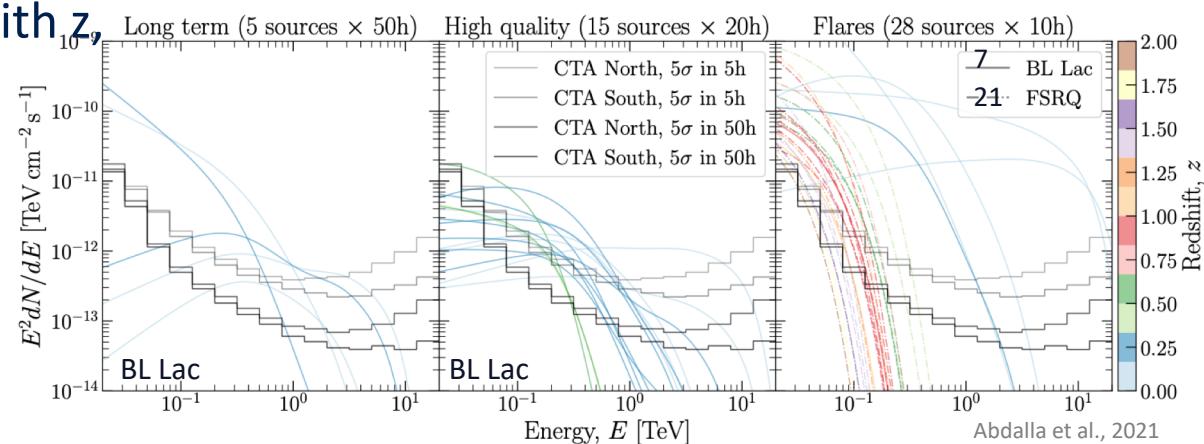
# CTA EGAL WG TF: Gamma Propagation - 1



- **Goal:** CTA sensitivity for probing cosmology and fundamental physics with  $\gamma$  rays  
**(Consortium pub.)**

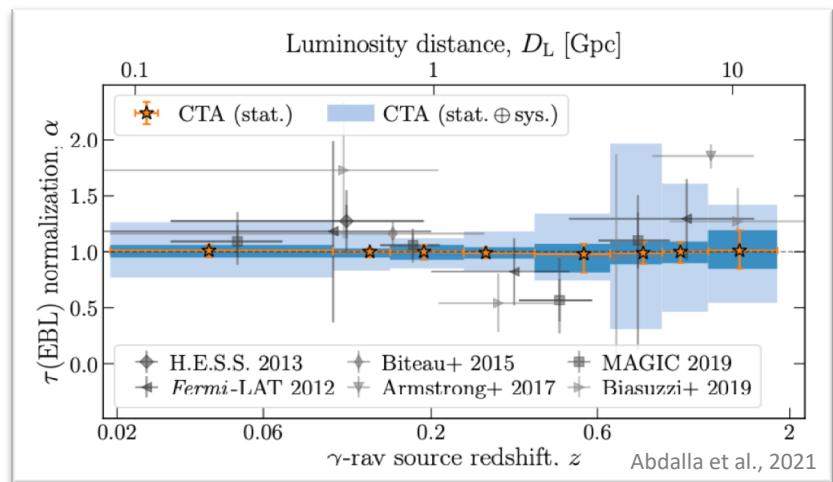


- **Methods:** 3FHL AGN with  $z$ , detected in 1d by Fermi/LAT:  
48 sources,  $z$  in  $[0.05, 2]$



## Results on EBL

- CTA will
  - probe EBL over 0.1-100  $\mu\text{m}$
  - may probe star formation up to  $z \sim 1.5 - 2$
- Provides tools to conduct the analyses
- Includes the treatment of systematic uncertainties using bracketing IRFs



Projected CTA constraints on the EBL scale factor

## Contacts and recent References:

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H. Martinez-Huerta ([humberto.martinezhuerta@udem.edu](mailto:humberto.martinezhuerta@udem.edu))

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I. Vovk ([vovk@icrr.u-tokyo.ac.jp](mailto:vovk@icrr.u-tokyo.ac.jp))

**CTA Consortium Paper:** Abdalla et al, [2021, JCAP, 02, 02, 048](#), *Sensitivity of the Cherenkov Telescope Array for probing cosmology and fundamental physics with gamma-ray propagation*

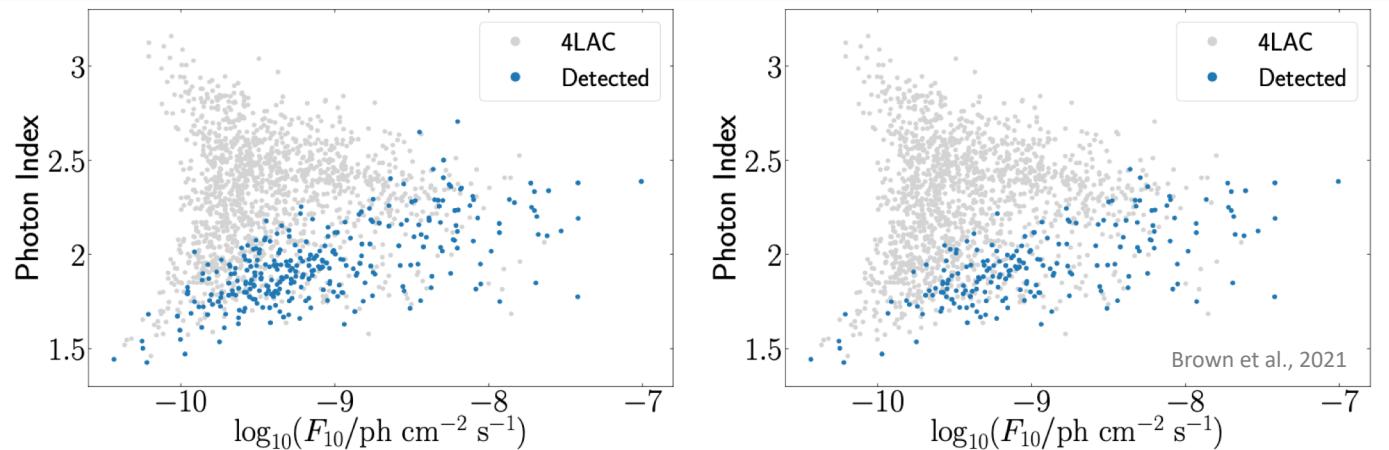
Vovk et al. [PoS\(ICRC2021\)894](#) CTA sensitivity for probing cosmology and fundamental physics with gamma rays

- **Goal:** quantify CTA's ability to conduct source population studies of  $\gamma$ -ray bright AGN  
**(Consortium publication – initial draft stage)**
  - How many/what kind/what redshift of source will CTA detect?
  - How long will it take?
  - Luminosity function reconstruction of BL Lacs (Egal Survey)
- **Methods:** selection of 4LAC sources with known z (validated by redshift TF!): 1551 sources
  - SED extrapolation from *Fermi* to VHE (with best of PL or LP)
  - EBL absorption (Dominguez+2011)

# CTA EGAL WG TF: AGN Population - 2



## Results



Flux vs Photon index in omega and alpha configurations, respectively

- grey: simulated ( $\sim 10^3$ )
- blue: detected ( $\sim 10^2$ )

## Contacts and recent References:

Tarek Hassan [tarek.hassan@ciemat.es](mailto:tarek.hassan@ciemat.es)

- Hassan et al., [PoS\(ICRC2017\)632](#), *Extragalactic source population studies at very high energies in the Cherenkov Telescope Array era*
- Nievas Rosillo, Hassan, [PoS\(ICRC2021\)722](#) *A data-driven evaluation of Fermi-LAT extrapolation schemes to the VHE regime*
- Brown et al., [PoS\(ICRC2021\)887](#) *Active Galactic Nuclei population studies with the Cherenkov Telescope Array*

- **Goal:** investigate CTA's potential to discriminate between different particle acceleration and emission scenarios  
**(Consortium publication – proposal stage)**
- **Methods:** selected different source types (HSP, ISP, FSRQ) to be used as input for the theoretical simulations
  - Use time dependent theoretical SED to produce light curves in the CTA energy range
  - Optimisation of observational strategies for AGNs

## Contacts

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J. Becerra-Gonzalez [jbecerra@iac.es](mailto:jbecerra@iac.es)

- Goals:
  - Reach out external scientific communities
  - Validation of science requirements
- Characteristics:
  - Open, blind, and realistic
- Timescale:
  - ask Roberta!

## Miti da sfatare:

- ❖ Si pubblica solo se parte di CTA
- ❖ Il processo di referaggio interno e' lunghissimo
- ❖ Se ne parlo mi rubano l'idea
- ❖ Se faccio il lavoro devo mettere tutti

# INAF publishing with/within CTA EGAL WG



- Galanti et al., 2020, MNRAS, 491, 5268, *Fundamental physics with blazar spectra: a critical appraisal*
- Galanti et al., 2020, MNRAS, 495, 3463, *Probing the absorption of  $\gamma$ -rays by IR radiation from the dusty torus in FSRQs with the Cherenkov Telescope Array*
- Romano et al., 2020, MNRAS, 494, 411,  *$\gamma$ - $\gamma$  absorption in the broad-line region radiation fields of narrow-line Seyfert 1 galaxies with the Cherenkov Telescope Array*
- Tavecchio et al., 2019, MNRAS, 483, 1802, *Putting the hadron beam scenario for extreme blazars to the test with the Cherenkov Telescope Array*
- Lamastra et al., 2019, Astropart. Phys., 112, 16, *Unveiling the origin of the  $\gamma$ -ray emission in NGC 1068 with the Cherenkov Telescope Array*
- Romano et al., 2018, MNRAS, 481, 5046, *Prospects for  $\gamma$ -ray observations of narrow-line Seyfert 1 galaxies with the Cherenkov Telescope Array*
- Angioni et al., 2017, Astropart. Phys., 92, 42, *Radio Galaxies with the Cherenkov Telescope Array*



cherenkov  
telescope  
array

A vibrant, multi-colored space background showing nebulae, stars, and galaxies in shades of red, orange, yellow, green, and blue.

Thanks!

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