

# VERY HIGH ENERGY EMISSION FROM GAMMA-RAY BURSTS WITH THE MAGIC TELESCOPES

Davide Miceli (University & INFN Padova)

On behalf of the MAGIC Collaboration



# The MAGIC Collaboration



El Roque de Los Muchachos  
Observatory  
(La Palma, Spain)

The **MAGIC Collaboration** is composed by ~150 physicists  
(230 members in total, including technical and  
administrative staff ) from **13 countries**

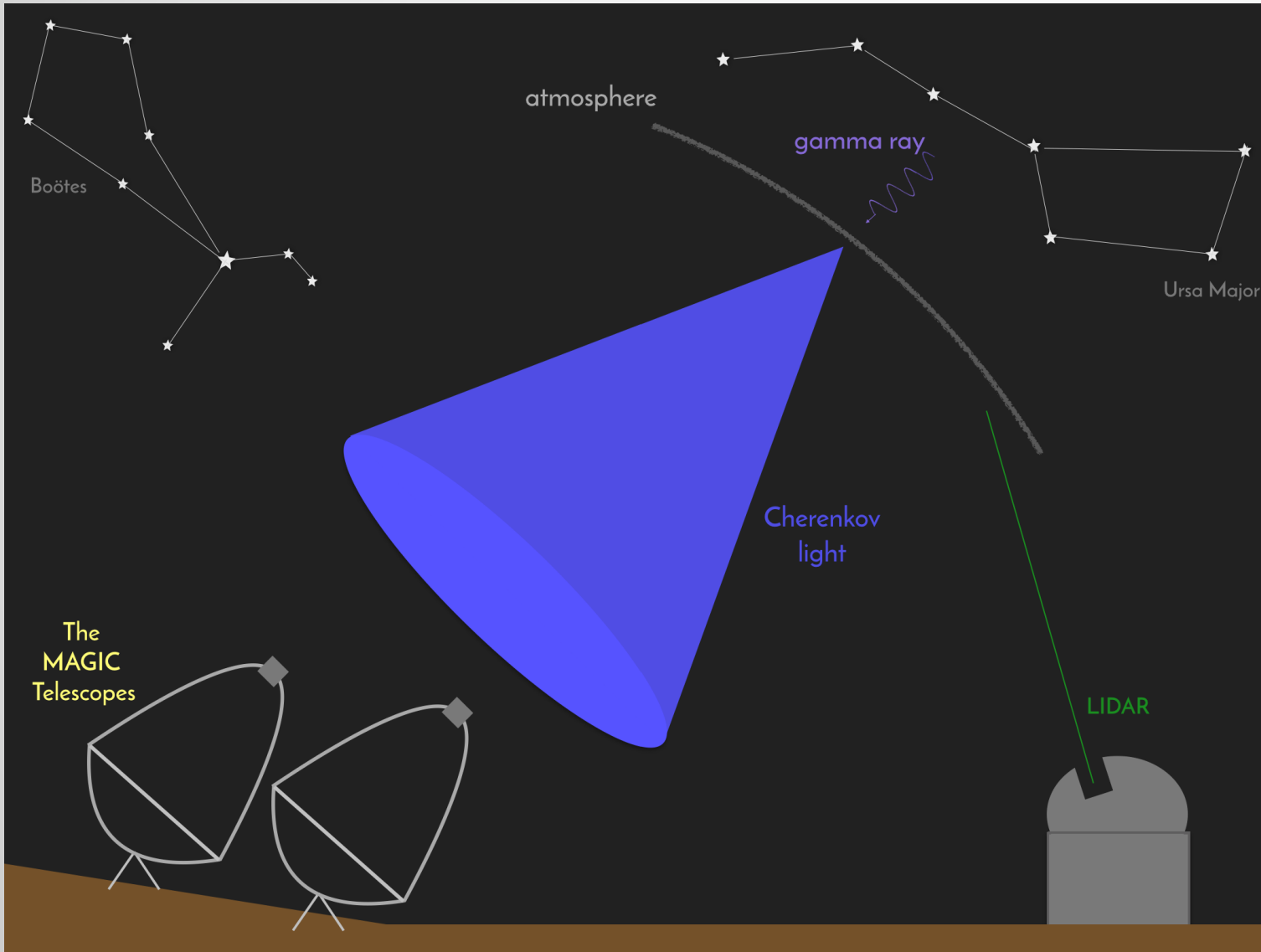


# The MAGIC Collaboration



Credit: ESA/Copernicus Sentinel-2

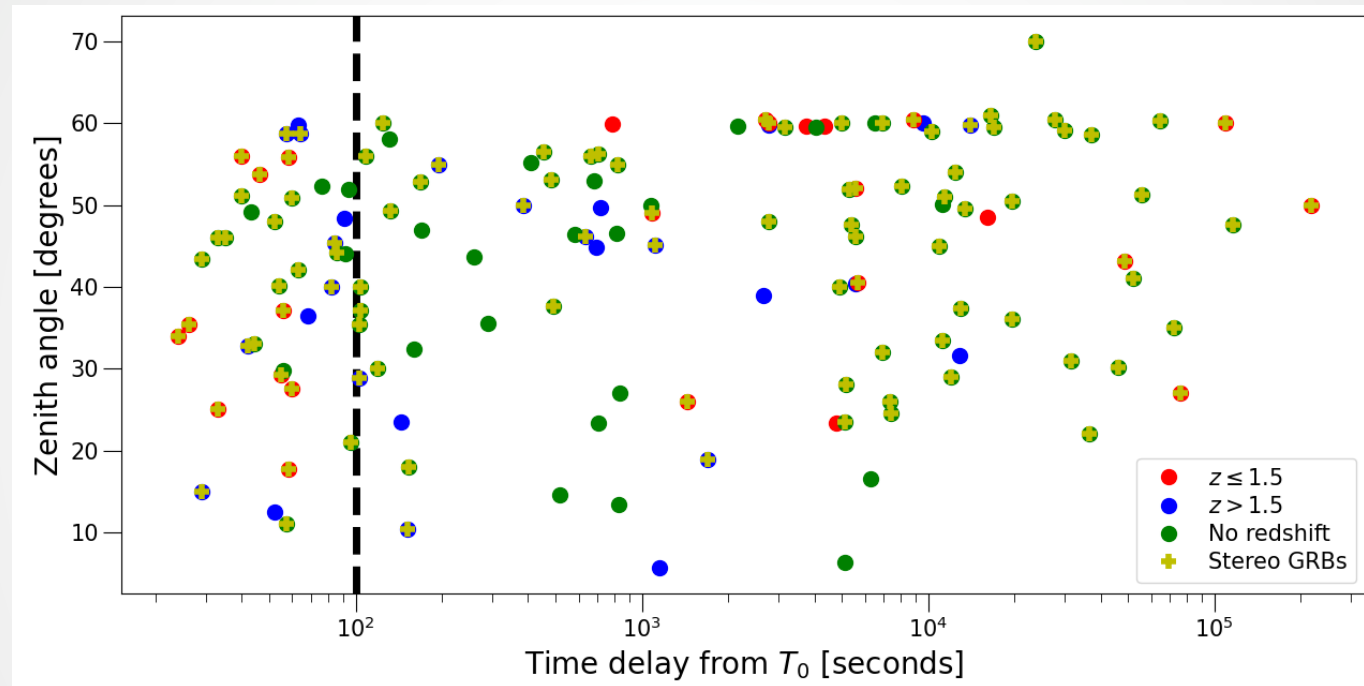
# The MAGIC telescopes



- Stereoscopic system of two 17 m diameter Imaging Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes (IACT)
- Indirect detection of  $\gamma$ -rays
- Energy range: 50 GeV - ~ 50 TeV
- Atmospheric transmission evaluated by the LIDAR system

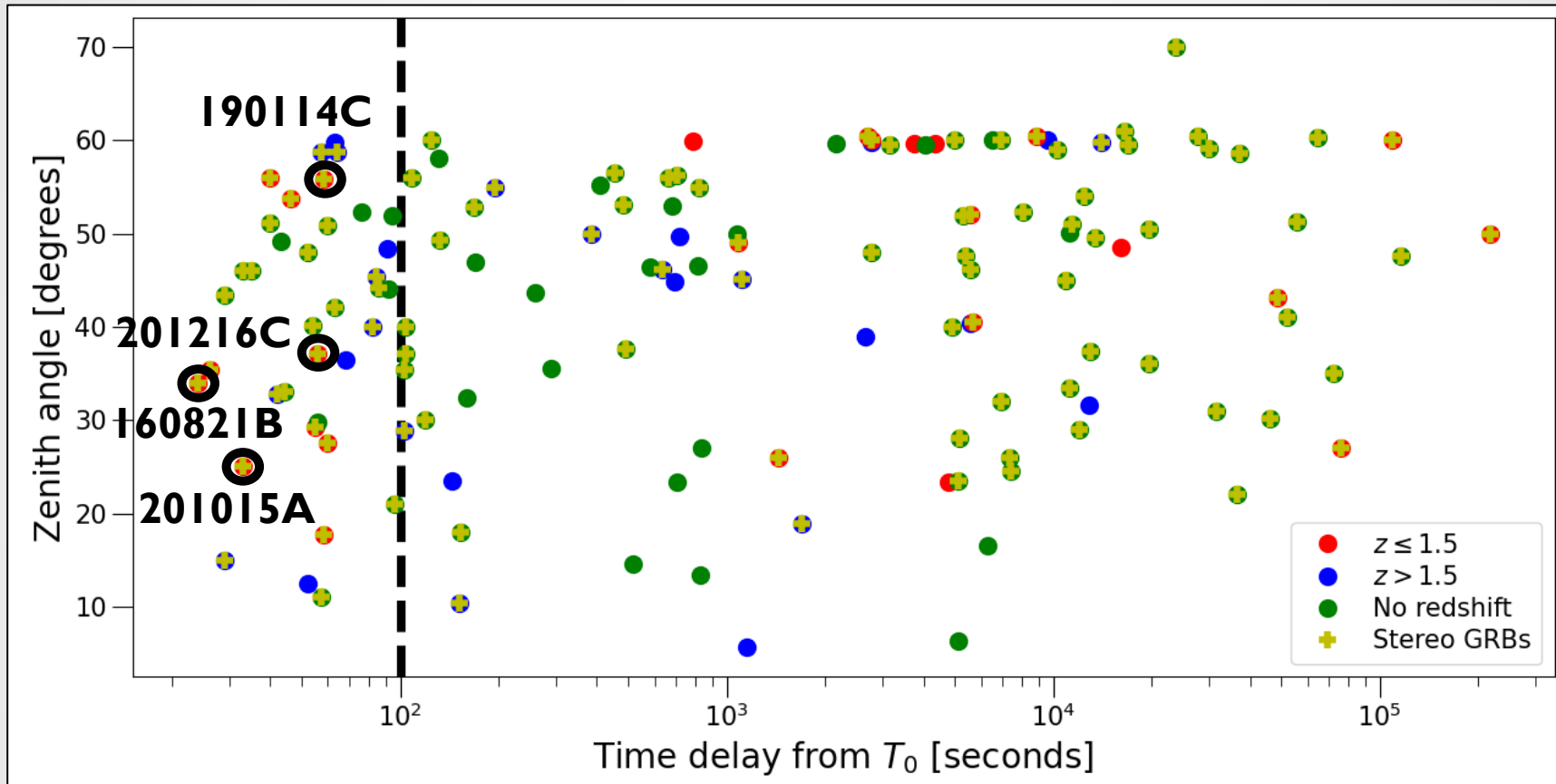
# The MAGIC telescopes

## GRB observations with MAGIC



- Suitable instruments for GRB follow-ups:
  - low energy threshold ( $\sim 50$  GeV or lower with SumTrigger)
  - automatic alert system and fast repositioning ( $\sim 7$  deg/s)
  - observations in non-standard conditions (moon time, high zenith angles)

# The MAGIC telescopes



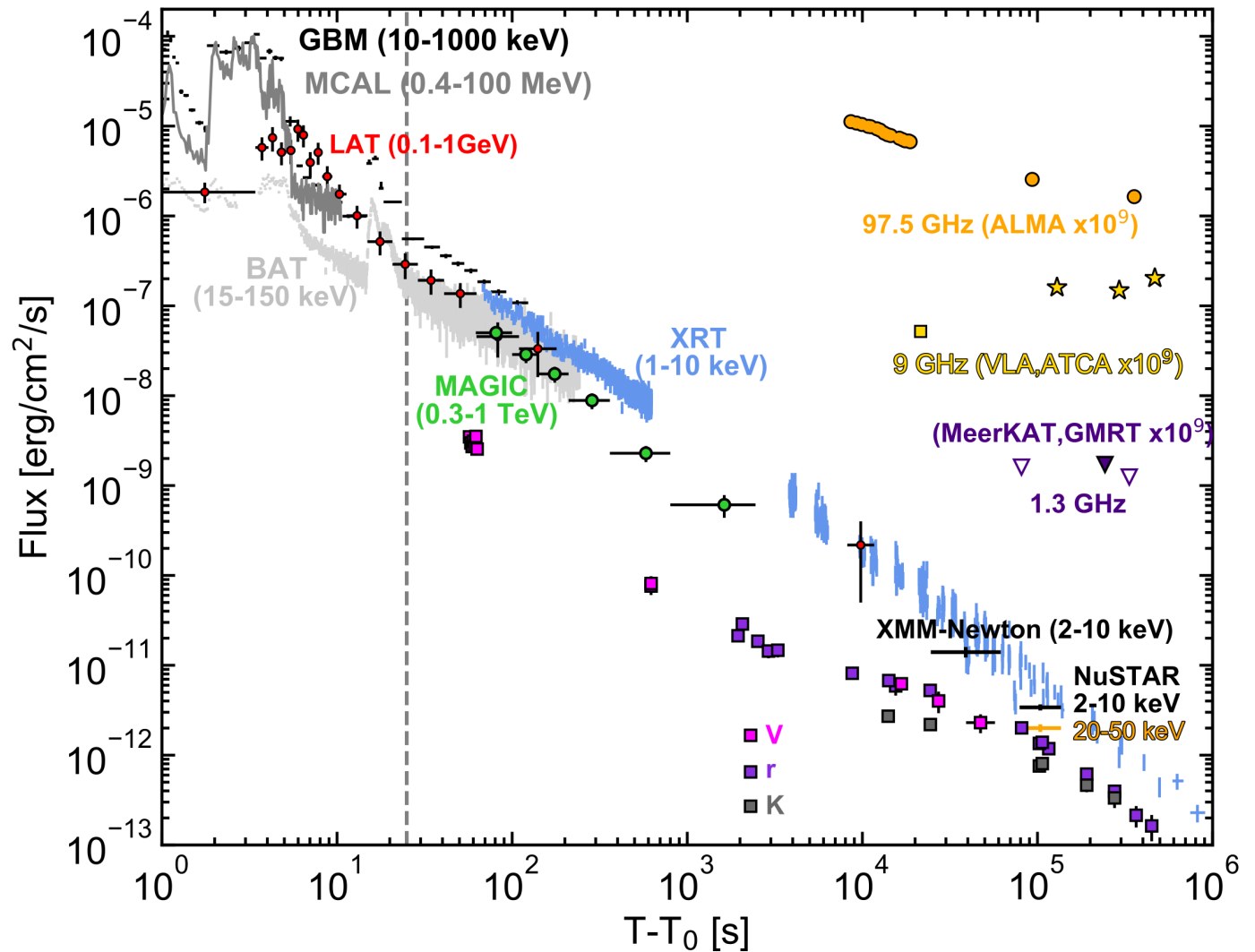
- ~ 140 GRBs observed since 2005
- 2 **detections** ( $> 5\sigma$  excess): GRB190114C, GRB201216C
- 2 **hints of detection** ( $\gtrsim 3\sigma$  excess): GRB160821B and GRB201015A

# GRB190114C

- Long GRB
- $E_{\gamma,iso} \sim 2.5 \times 10^{53}$  erg
- $z = 0.42$

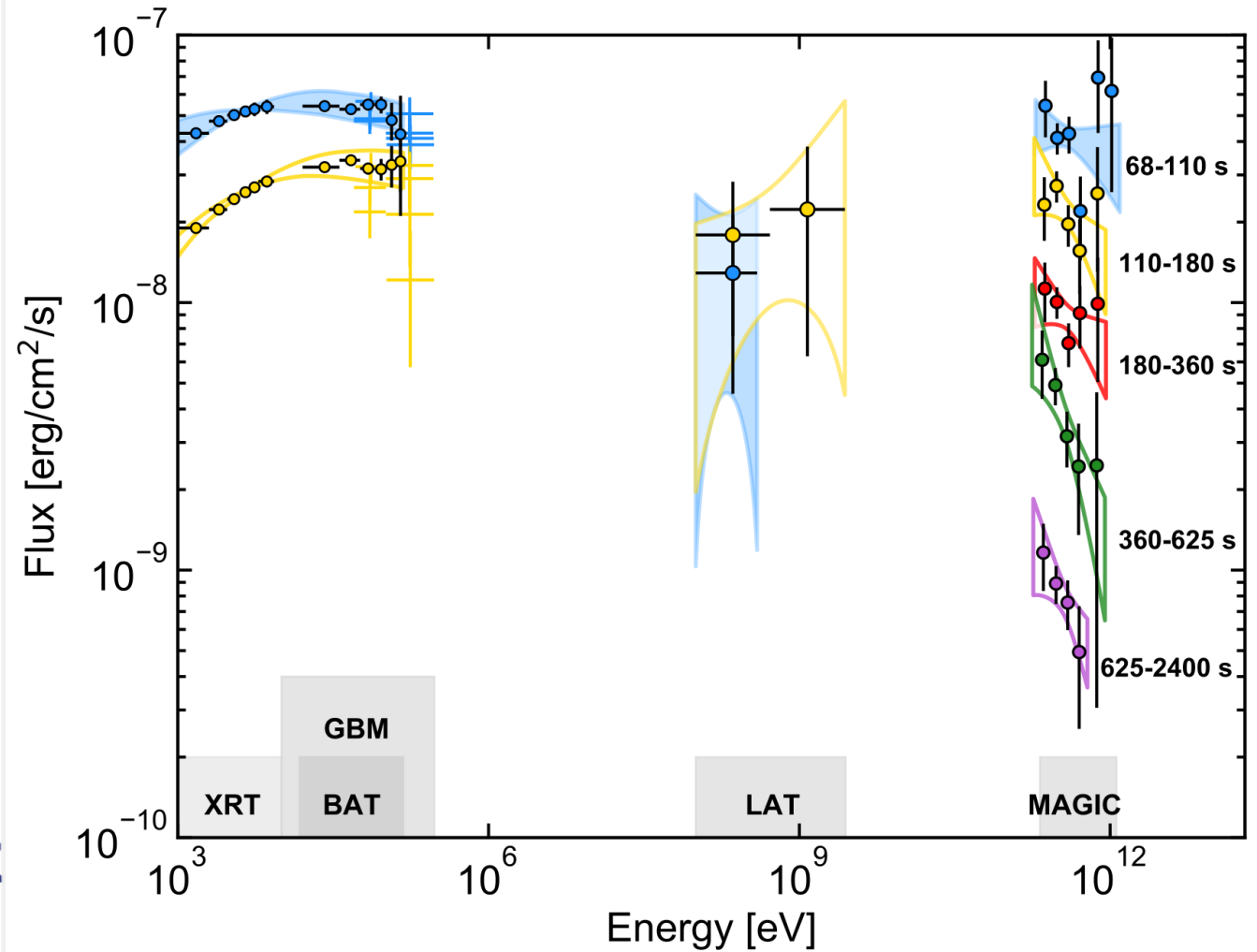
## MAGIC detection info:

- $T_{delay} \sim 57$  s
- $> 50\sigma$  in 20 minutes
- detection up to 40 min
- 0.3 - 1 TeV energy range
- moon conditions and  $Z_d > 50$



# GRB 190114C

X-ray + GeV + TeV  
↓  
Spectral hardening for  $E > 0.2$  TeV  
↓  
Can't be extension of Synchrotron component  
↓  
**New emission component at VHE**





# Modeling of GRB190114C

- Observed
- - - No  $\gamma$ - $\gamma$  opacity
- EBL-deabsorbed

MAGIC soft spectrum:

- Klein-Nishina
- $\gamma$ - $\gamma$  internal absorption

GRB afterglow parameters:

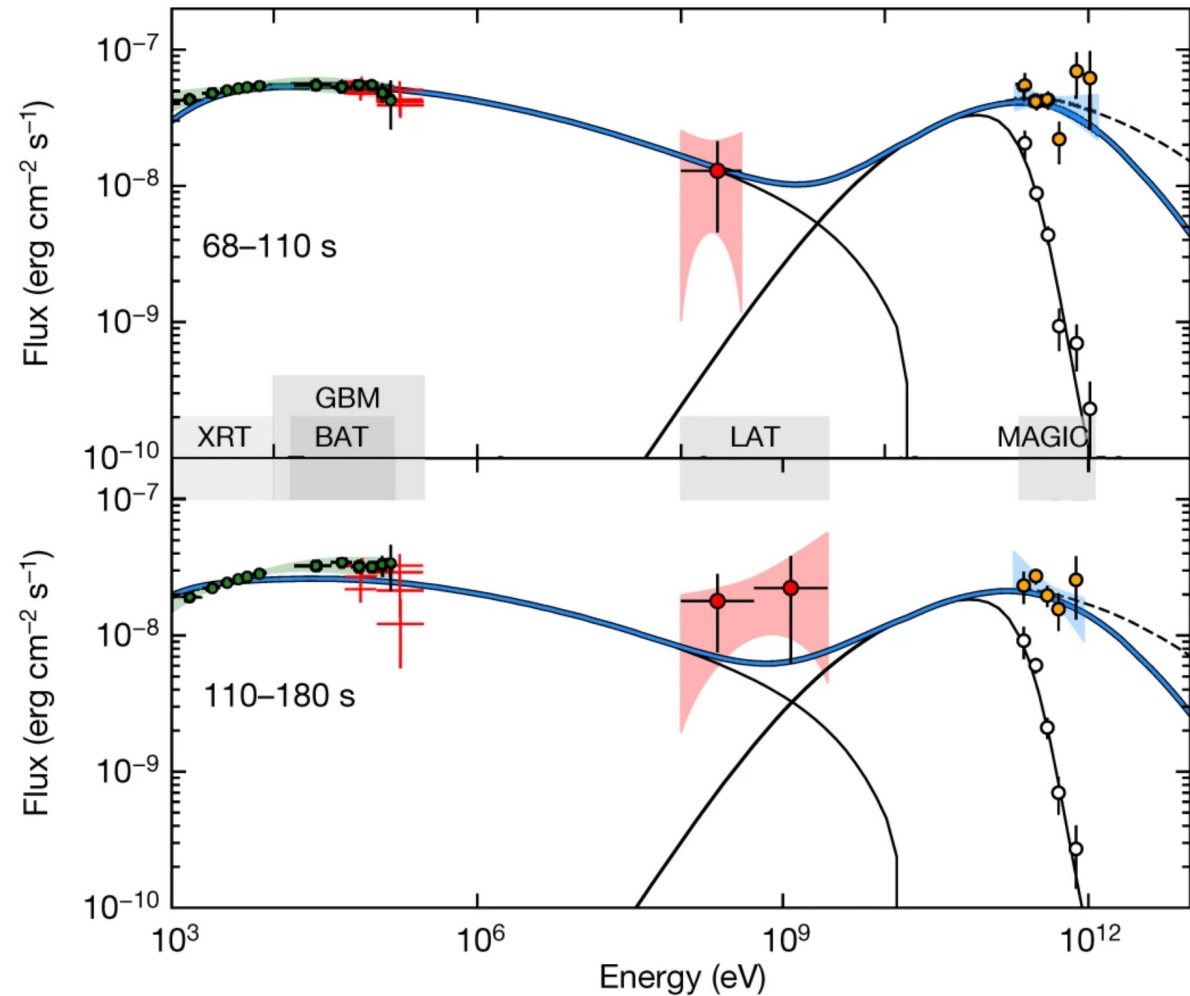
$$E_k \gtrsim 3 \times 10^{53} \text{ erg}$$

$$\epsilon_e \approx 0.05-0.15$$

$$\epsilon_b \approx 0.05-1 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$n \approx 0.5-5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$p \approx 2.4-2.6$$



# GRB 190114C: impact on other physics

## Lorentz Invariance Violation (LIV) studies

$$\Delta t = s_{\pm} \frac{n+1}{2} D_n(z) \left( \frac{E}{E_{QG,n}} \right)^n$$

Photon energy at the detector

$$\Delta t(E, \eta_1) = \eta_1 \cdot 17 \text{ s/TeV} \cdot E$$

$$\Delta t(E, \eta_2) = \eta_2 \cdot 25 \text{ s/TeV}^2 \cdot E^2$$

Assuming  $\eta_n = 1$  a 1 TeV gamma should have a time delay of

- 17 seconds (n=1)
- 25 seconds (n=2)

Where we have defined  $\eta$  as the ratio between the Planck energy and the Q.G. energy scale

$$\eta_1 = s_{\pm} \cdot E_{Pl}/E_{QG,1} \quad \eta_2 = 10^{-16} \cdot s_{\pm} \cdot E_{Pl}^2/E_{QG,2}^2$$

From the GRB 190114C data we got the following 95% lower limits on the Q.G. energy scale

	superl.	subl.	
$E_{QG,1}$ [ $10^{19}$ GeV]	0.55	0.58	← linear scenario
$E_{QG,2}$ [ $10^{10}$ GeV]	5.6	6.3	← quadratic scenario

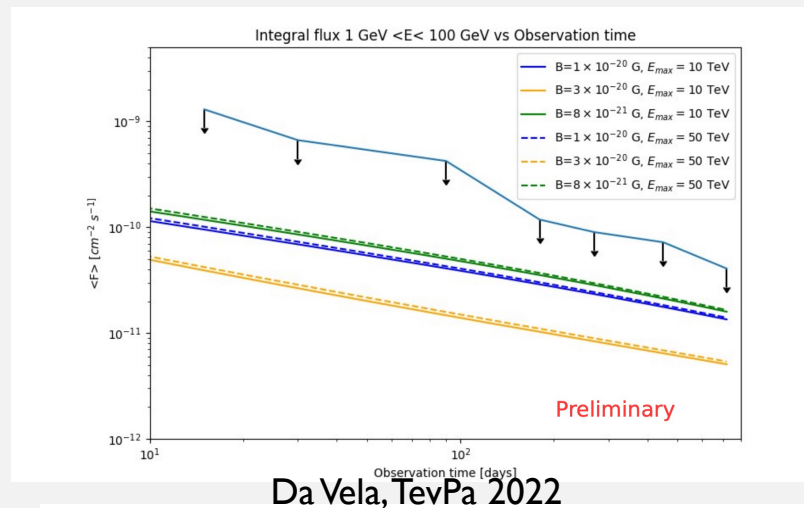
## COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS LIMITS

Source	Source type	Redshift	$E_{QG,1}$ [ $10^{19}$ GeV]	$E_{QG,2}$ [ $10^{10}$ GeV]	Instrument
GRB 090510	GRB	0.9	9.3	13	Fermi-LAT <sup>1</sup>
<b>GRB 190114C</b>	GRB	0.42	<b>0.58</b>	<b>6.3</b>	MAGIC ← this work
PKS 2155-304	AGN	0.116	0.21	6.4	H.E.S.S. <sup>2</sup>
Mrk 501	AGN	0.034	0.036	8.5	H.E.S.S. <sup>3</sup>
Mrk 501	AGN	0.034	0.021	2.6	MAGIC <sup>4</sup>
Mrk 421	AGN	0.031	pending	pending	MAGIC
Crab Pulsar	Pulsar	2.0 kpc	0.055	5.9	MAGIC <sup>5</sup>

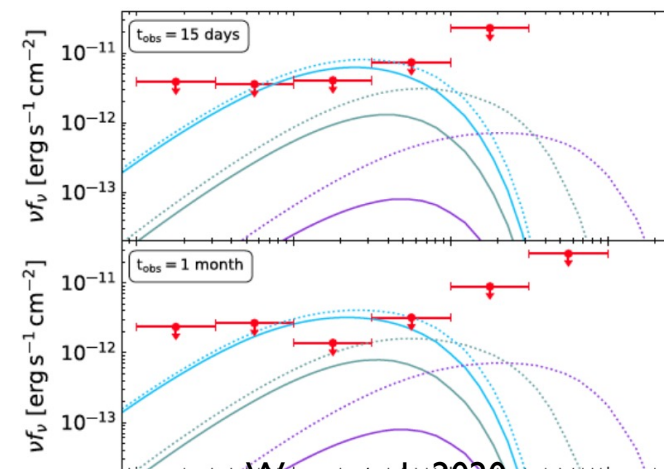
- <sup>1</sup> Vasileiou+ (2013)
- <sup>2</sup> Abramowski+ (2011)
- <sup>3</sup> Abdalla+ (2019)
- <sup>4</sup> Albert+ (2008)
- <sup>5</sup> Ahnen+ (2017)

$$E_{Pl} \sim 1.2 \cdot 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$$

## InterGalactic Magnetic Field (IGMF) studies



Da Vela, TevPa 2022



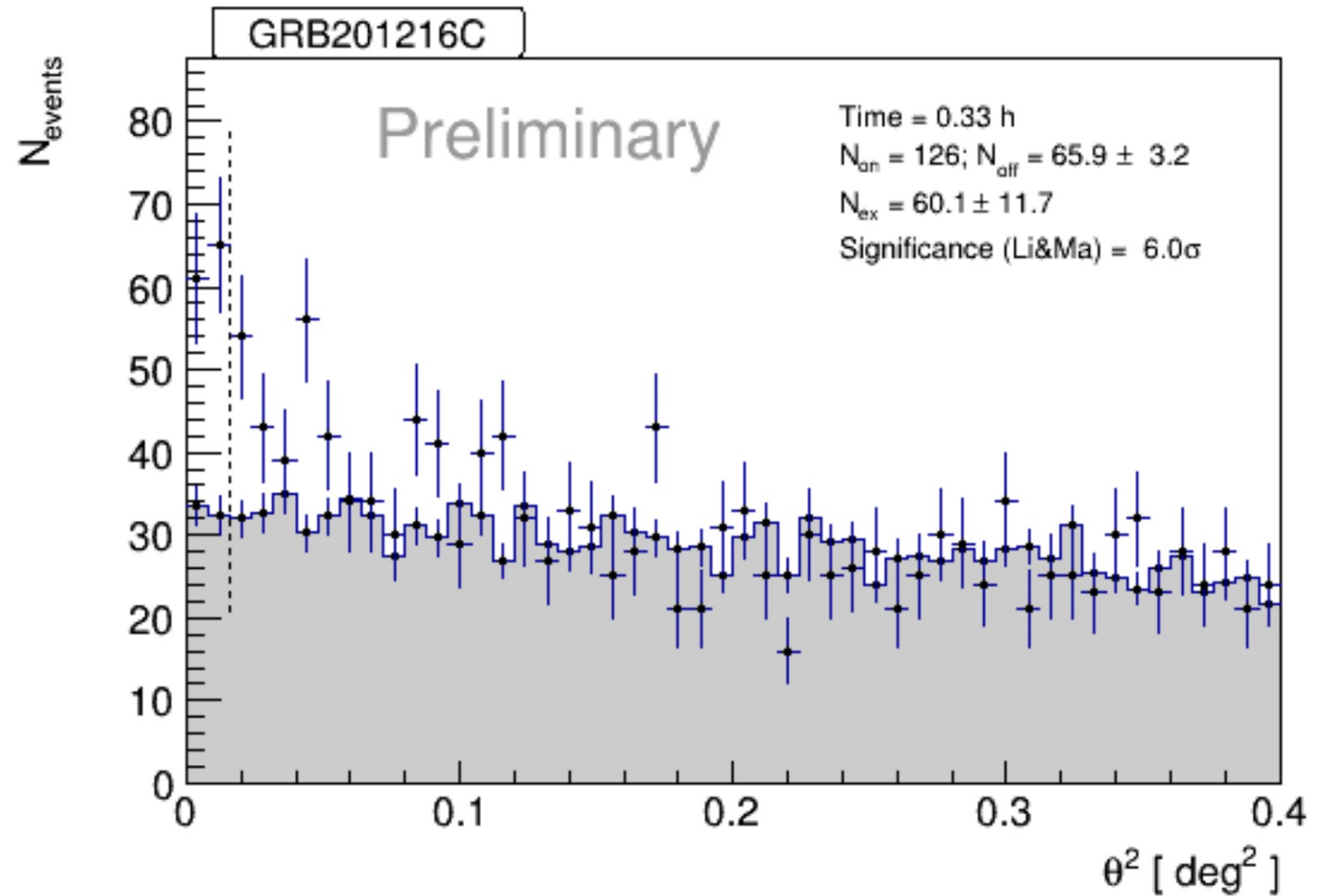
Wang et al., 2020

# GRB201216C

- Long GRB
- $E_{\gamma, \text{iso}} \sim 4.7 \times 10^{53}$  erg
- $z = 1.1$

## MAGIC detection info:

- $T_{\text{delay}} \sim 56$  s
- $6\sigma$  in 20 minutes
- 0.1 - ? TeV energy range

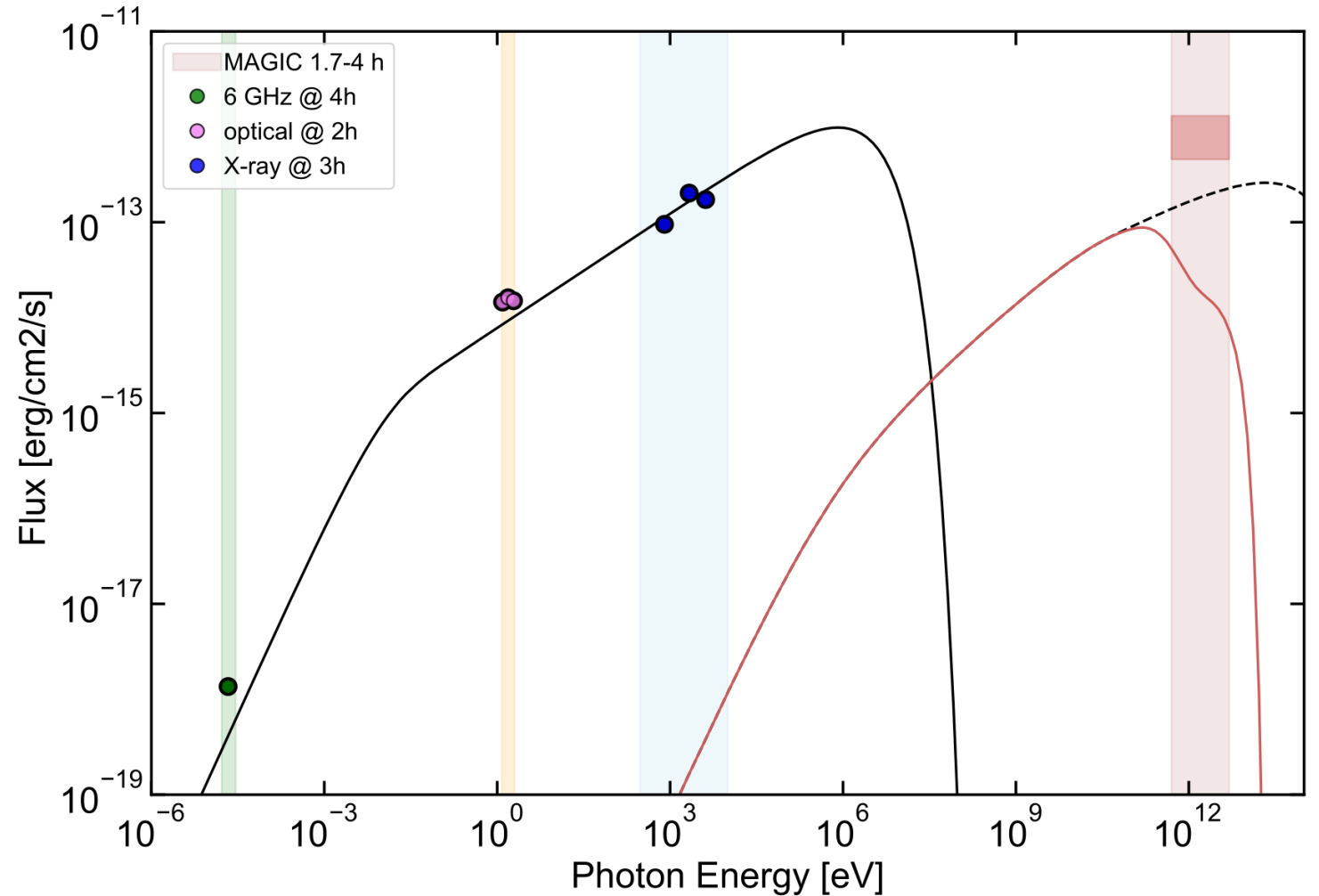


# GRB160821B ( $3\sigma$ excess)

- short GRB
- $E_{\gamma,iso} \sim 1.2 \times 10^{49}$  erg
- $z = 0.162$

## MAGIC info:

- $T_{delay} \sim 24$  s
- $3\sigma$  in 4 hrs
- 0.5 - 5 TeV energy range
- moon conditions, dedicated analysis

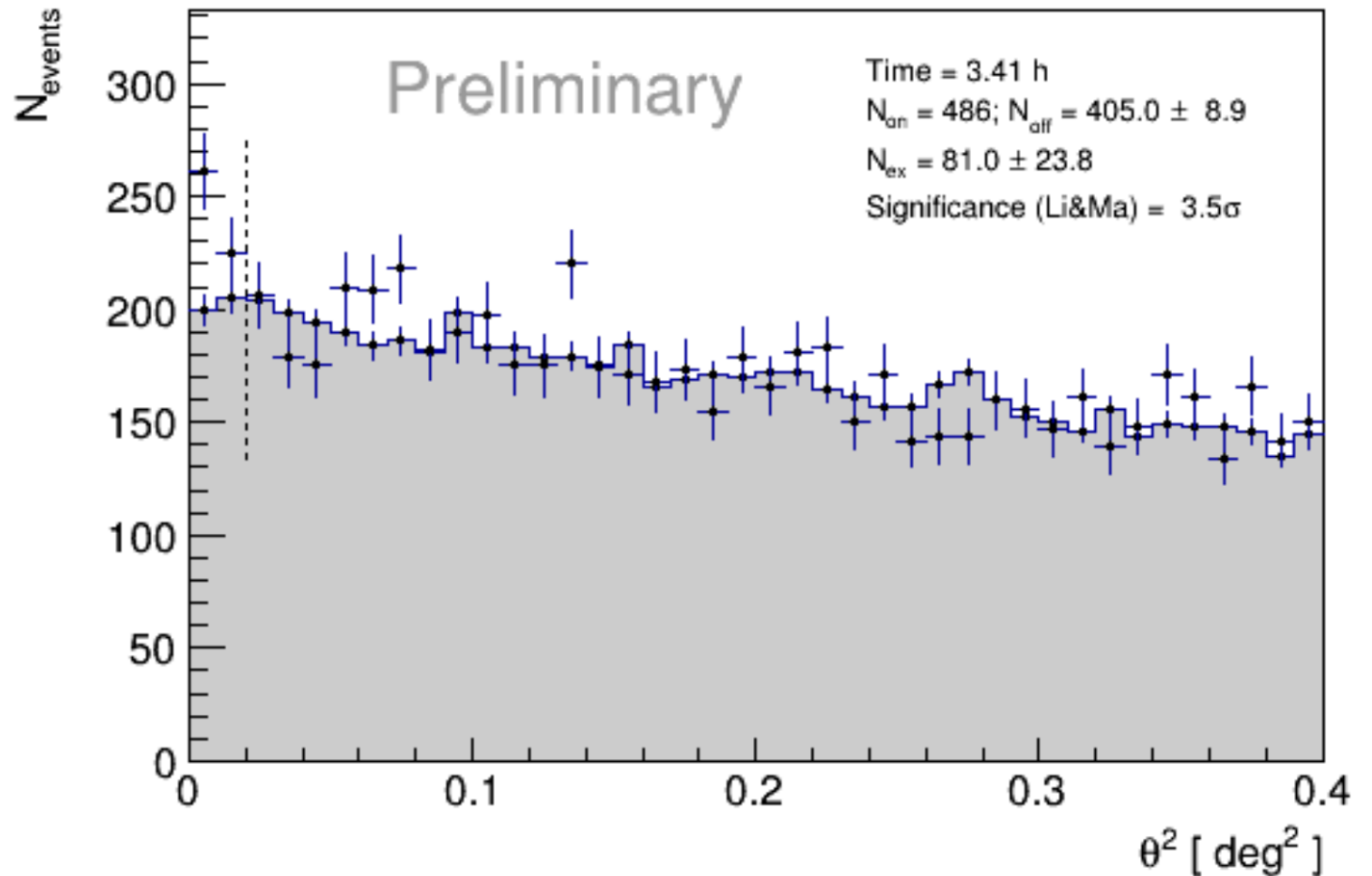


# GRB201015A ( $>3\sigma$ excess)

- long GRB
- $E_{\gamma,iso} \sim 1.1 \times 10^{50}$  erg
- $z = 0.426$

## MAGIC info:

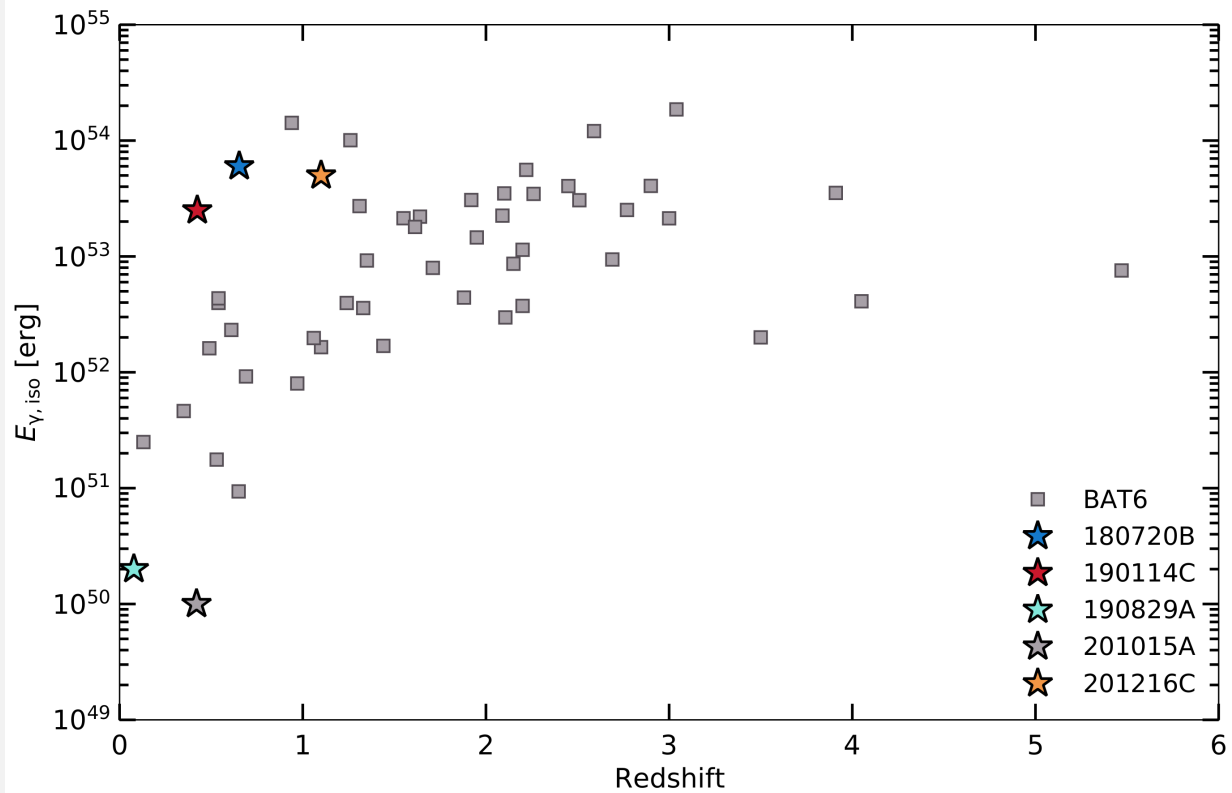
- $T_{delay} \sim 33$  s
- $3.5\sigma$  in 3.4 hrs
- 0.14 - ? TeV energy range



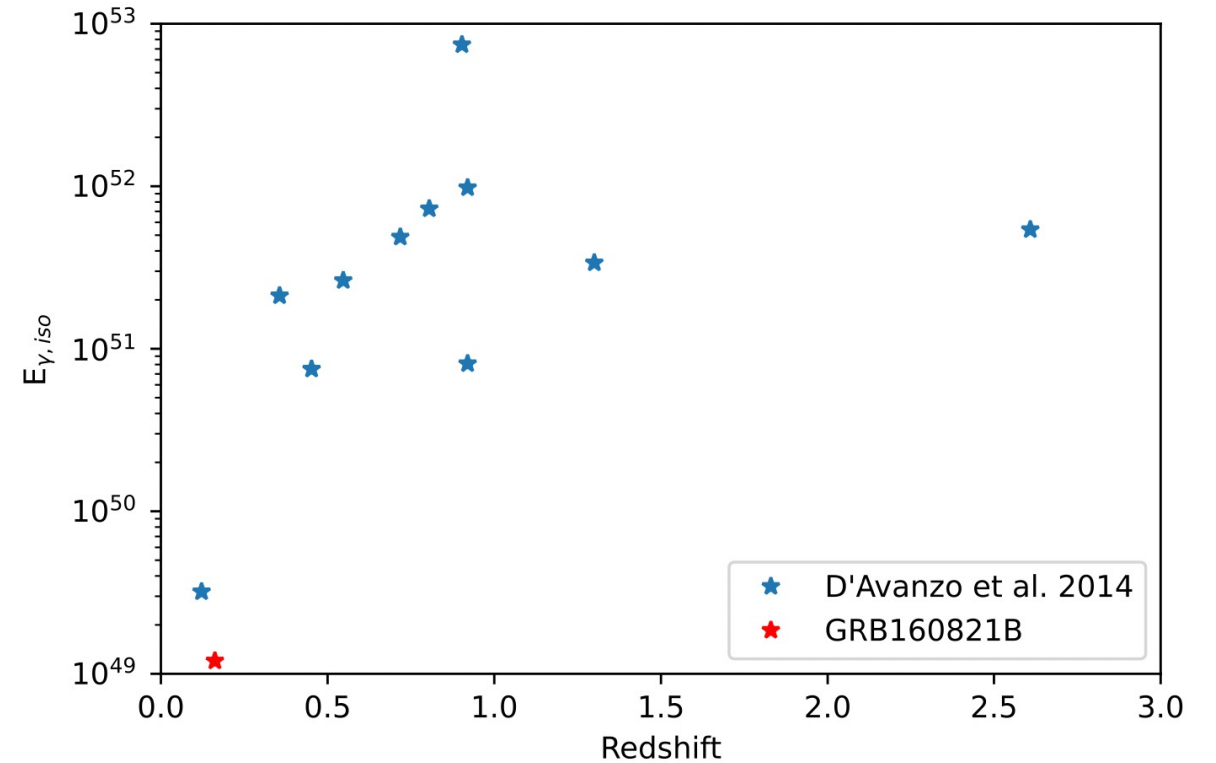
# Population of GRBs at VHE

## Energetics

long GRBs




short GRBs




Nava, 2021

# MAGIC Upper Limit (UL) catalog



**MAGIC**  
Major Atmospheric  
Gamma Imaging  
Cerenkov Telescopes

## Upper limits on the very high energy emission from GRBs observed by MAGIC



Francesco Longo<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Alessio Berti<sup>4</sup>, Zeljka Bosnjak<sup>5</sup>, Alice Donini<sup>2,6,7</sup>, Satoshi Fukami<sup>8</sup>, Jarred Gershon Green<sup>9</sup>, Davide Miceli<sup>2,6,10</sup>, Elena Moretti<sup>7</sup>, Lara Nava<sup>2,3,11</sup> and Koji Noda<sup>8</sup> on behalf of the MAGIC Collaboration

1. Department of Physics, University of Trieste, via Valerio 2, Trieste, Italy 2. INFN, Sezione di Trieste, via Valerio 2, Trieste, Italy 3. Institute for Fundamental Physics of the Universe, via Beirut 12, Trieste, Italy 4. Max Planck Institute for Physics, Föhringer Ring 6, Munich, Germany 5. University of Zagreb, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing (FER), Zagreb, Croatia 6. University of Udine, Dipartimento di Scienze Matematiche, Informatiche e Fisiche via delle Scienze 206, Udine, Italy 7. Institut de Física d'Altes Energies (IFAE), The Barcelona Institute of Science and Technology (BIST), Bellaterra (Barcelona), Spain 8. Institute for Cosmic Ray Research, The University of Tokyo, Kashiwanoha 5-1-5, Kashiwa, Japan 9. Osservatorio Astronomico di Roma, INAF, Via Frascati, 33, Monte Porzio Catone (RM), Italy 10. Laboratoire d'Annecy de Physique des Particules (LAPP), CNRS-IN2P3, 9 Chemin de Bellevue - BP 110, Annecy Cedex, France 11. Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera, INAF, via E. Bianchi 46, Merate (LC), Italy

The MAGIC collaboration has developed a dedicated observational strategy to repoint rapidly towards gamma-ray bursts (GRBs). In this contribution we present the information extracted from the large sample of the GRBs observed by MAGIC from 2013 to 2019. None of these GRBs were significantly detected, and this study aims to shed light on the reasons behind those non-detections. The same strategy had led to the successful detection of two GRBs at Very High Energies (VHE,  $E > 100\text{GeV}$ ). We describe the details of the MAGIC GRB observational procedure and the general properties for each observed GRB. The lack of detection can be attributed either to unfavourable conditions or GRB intrinsic properties, such as the magnetic field's energy density, the bulk Lorentz factor, or the emitting region's size. For the presented sample of GRBs, we show the methods used to obtain flux upper limits in the VHE range, and propose physical implications of the non-detection of VHE emission. These results constitute an essential reference point to study the broadband emission of GRBs, and for the Cherenkov telescope community to organize future follow-ups of GRBs at VHE energies.

POS

PROCEEDINGS  
OF SCIENCE



## Upper limits on the very high energy emission from GRBs observed by MAGIC

# Conclusions

- MAGIC demonstrates current generation IACTs are able to detect GRB afterglow emission
  - Hardware and software upgrades played a crucial role
    - alert system and fast repointing (but also late-time follow-up)
    - observations in non-standard conditions (moon, bad weather, high zenith angles)
- Broad GRB intrinsic properties: VHE emission may be present in a larger sample of GRBs  
→ we are ready to catch it to enlarge VHE GRB population
- I60821B is a promising hint for short GRBs
- MWL data and synergies with other instruments are crucial



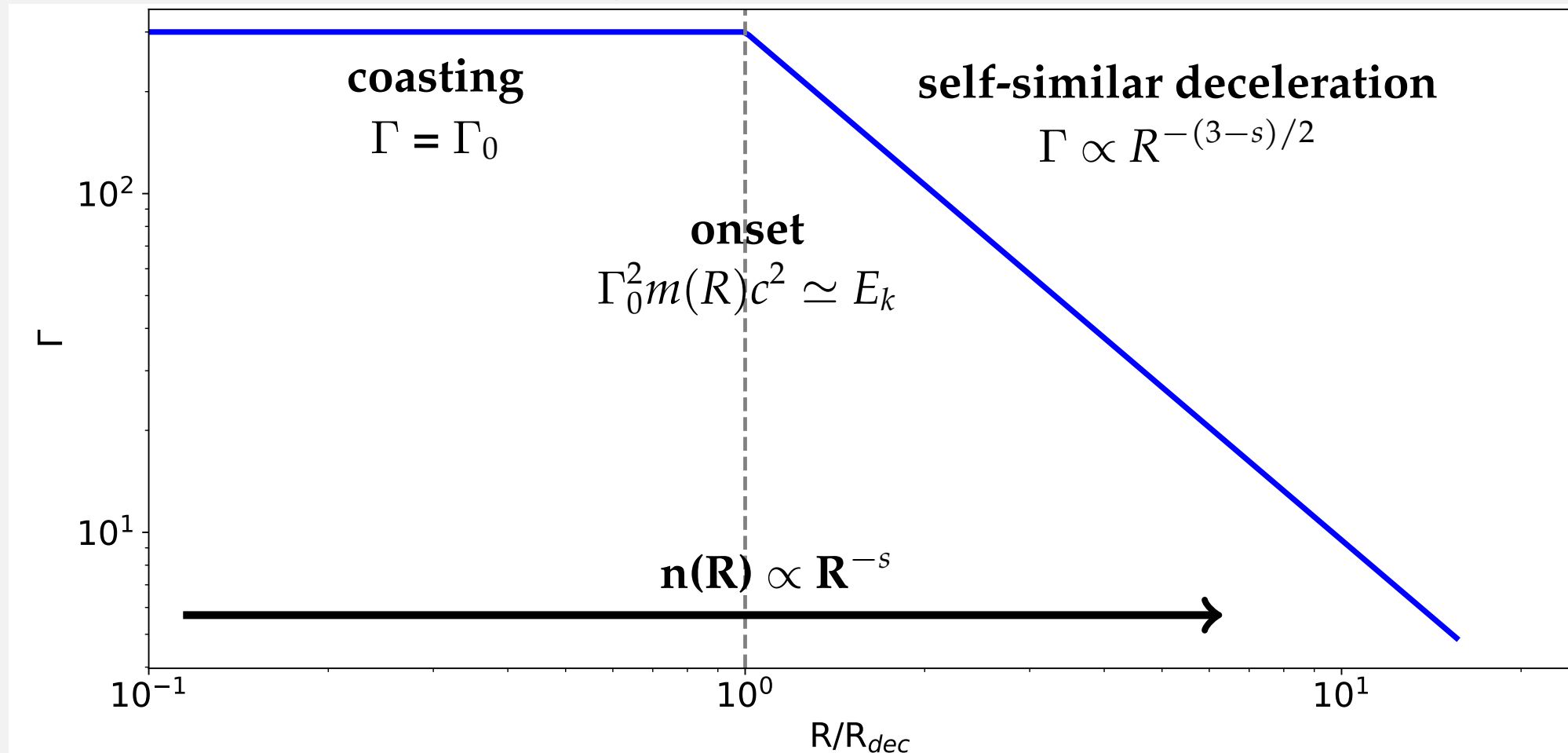
# Future challenges

- Nature and properties of afterglow emission still debated (SSC/sync, external medium, microphysics parameters)
- VHE emission in prompt phase
- VHE from short GRBs, connection with GW searches (O4 starting in March 2023)
- Explore new physics field with GRBs (LIV, IGMF, EBL)
- Future generation instruments (LSTs, CTA) will increase VHE GRB detections
- Upcoming papers: GRB201216C, GRB201015A and UL GRB catalog

BACKUP

# Afterglow: the external forward shock scenario

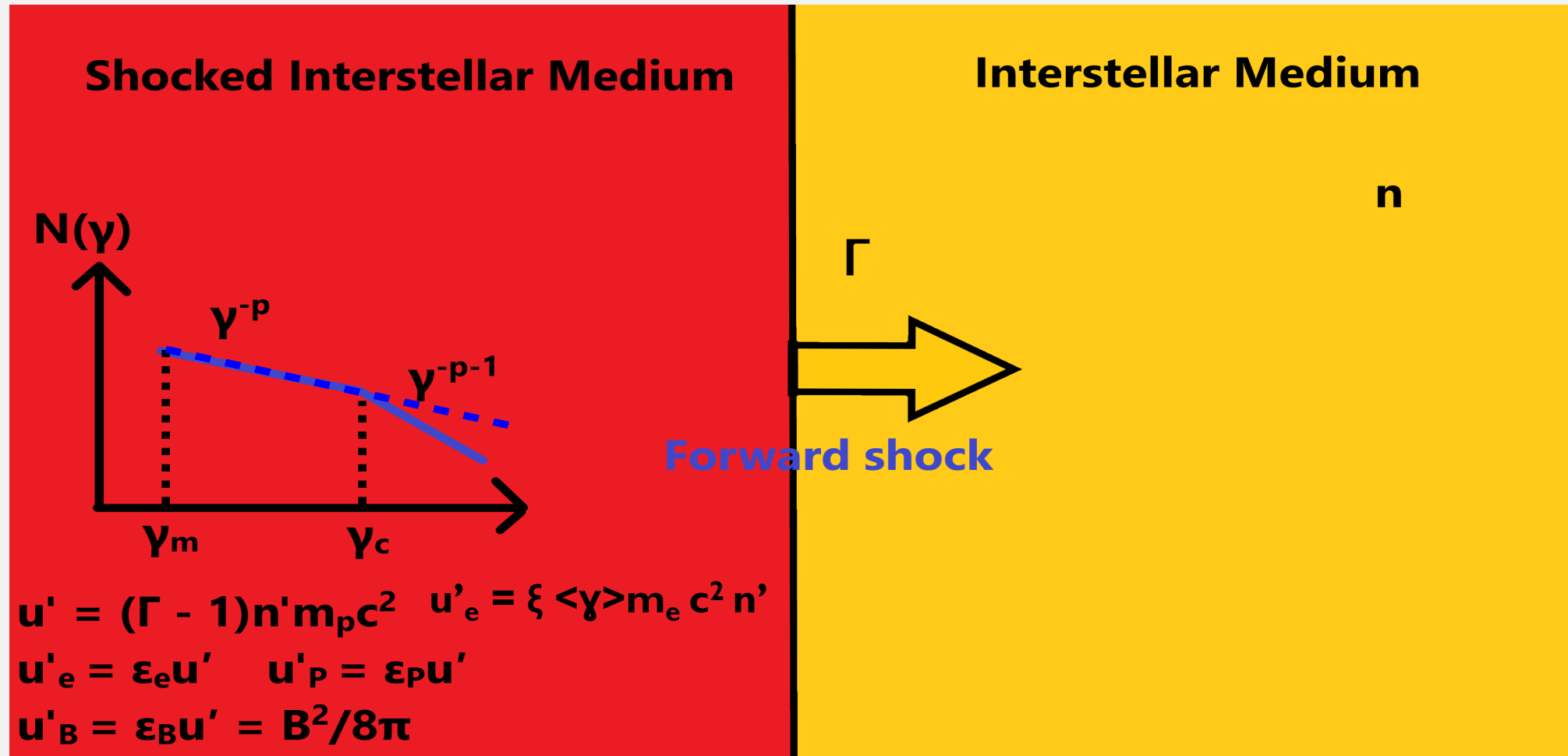
## Jet dynamics



See Blandford & Mckee, 1976; Nava et al., 2014

# Afterglow: the external forward shock scenario

## Relativistic shocks in GRB afterglow



# GRB190114C: Timeline

