

# Deep-learning techniques in ground-based imaging gamma-ray observatories



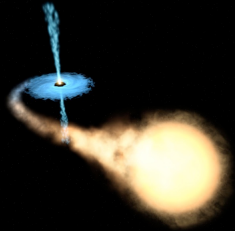
Daniel Nieto  
(d.nieto@ucm.es)

Institute for Particle and Cosmos Physics

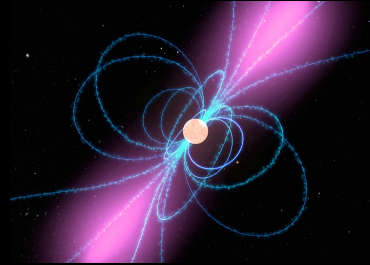
IPARCOS-UCM



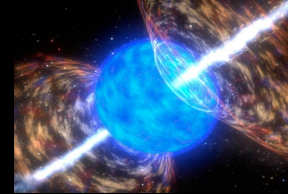
- Gamma-ray astronomy in a (very-small) nutshell
- Imaging atmospheric Cherenkov telescopes
- Enhancing IACTs with machine learning



Gamma-ray Binaries



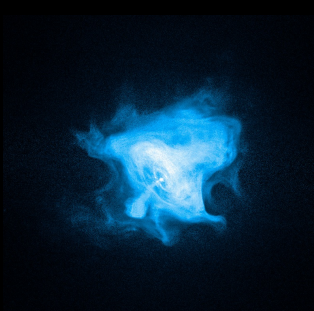
Pulsars



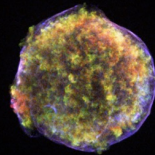
Gamma-ray Bursts



Compact-object mergers



Pulsar Wind Nebulae



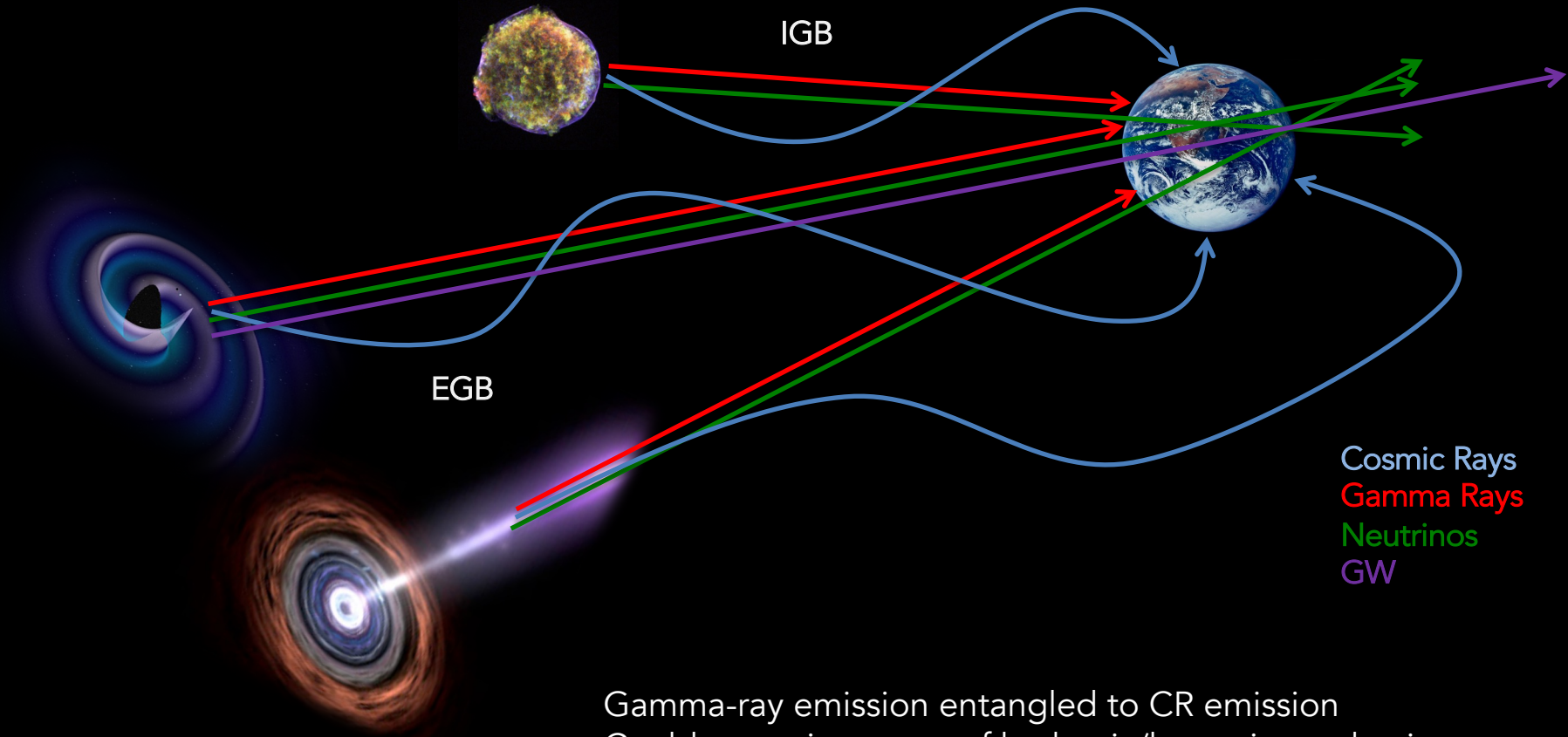
Supernova Remnants



Starburst Galaxies

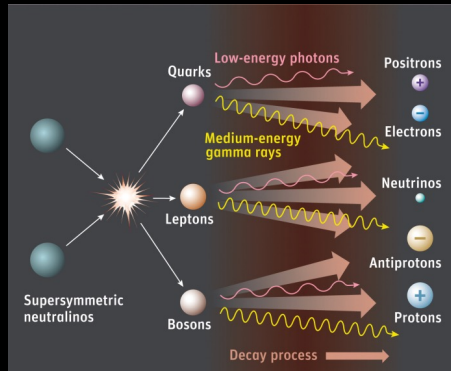
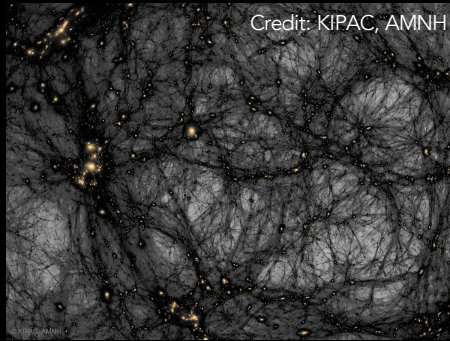


Active Galactic Nuclei

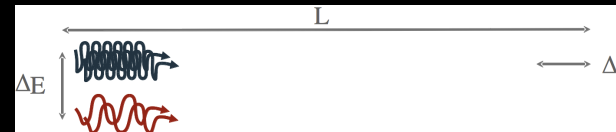


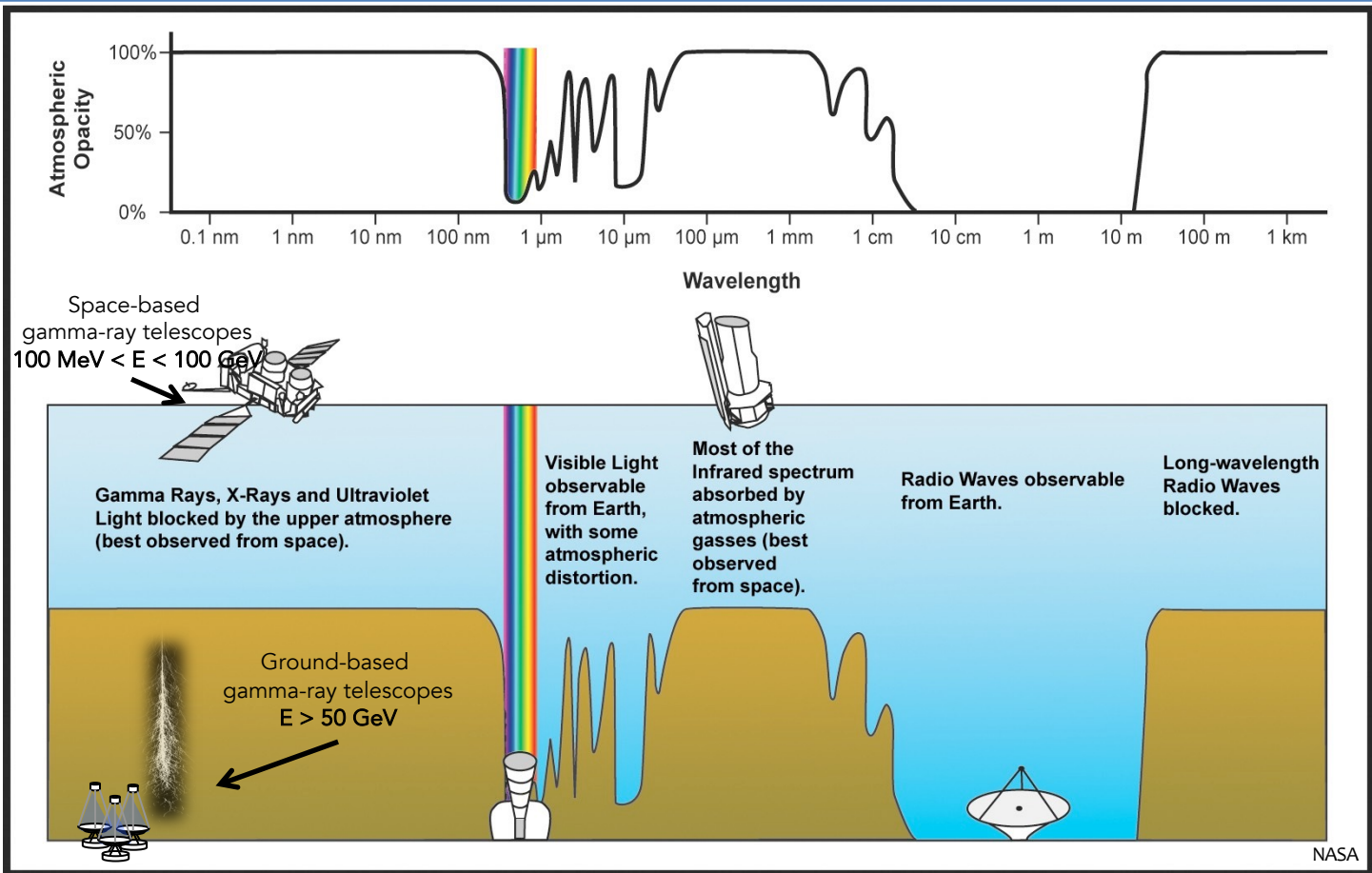
Gamma-ray emission entangled to CR emission  
Could carry signatures of hadronic/leptonic production

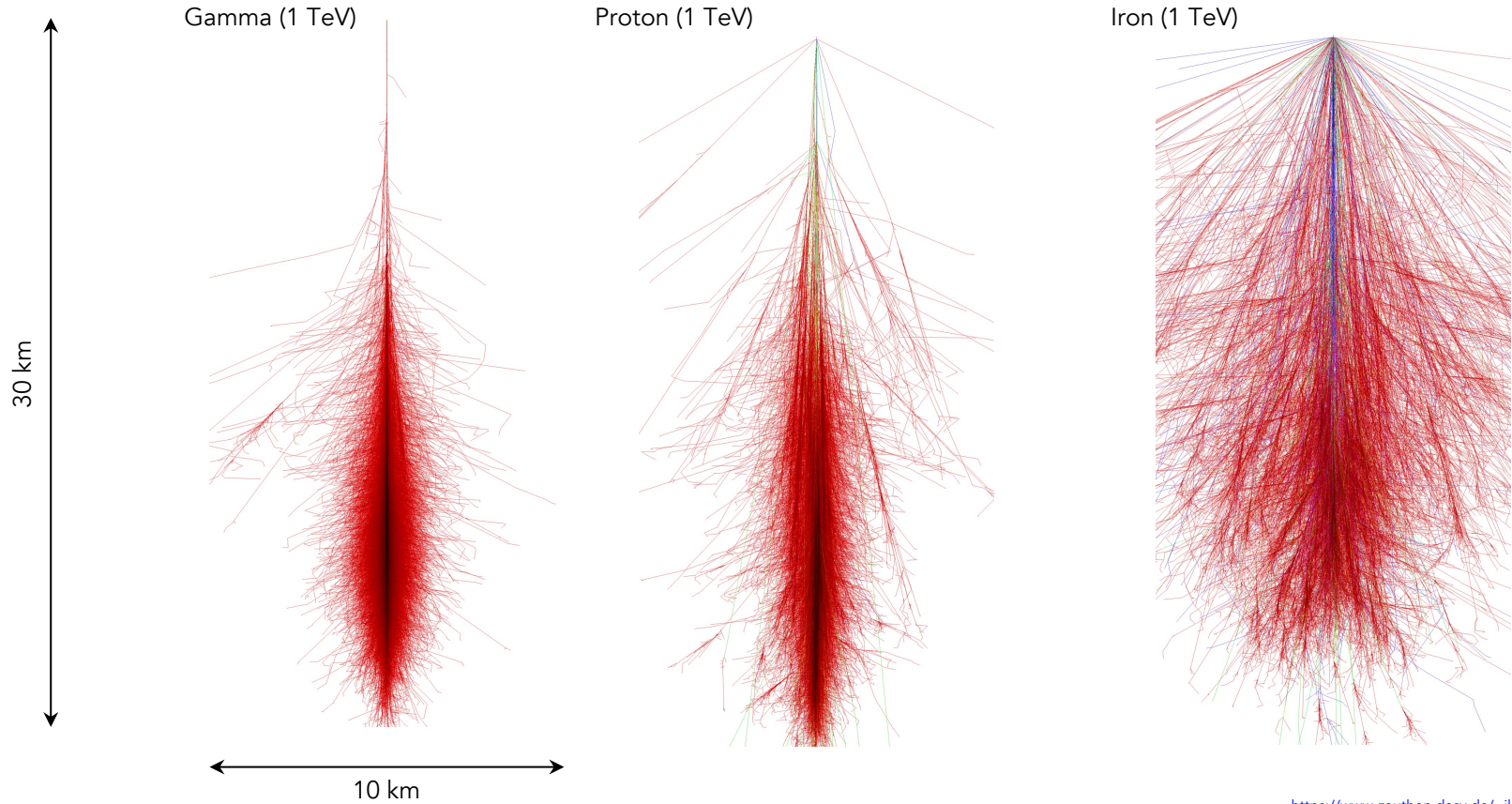
## Dark matter searches



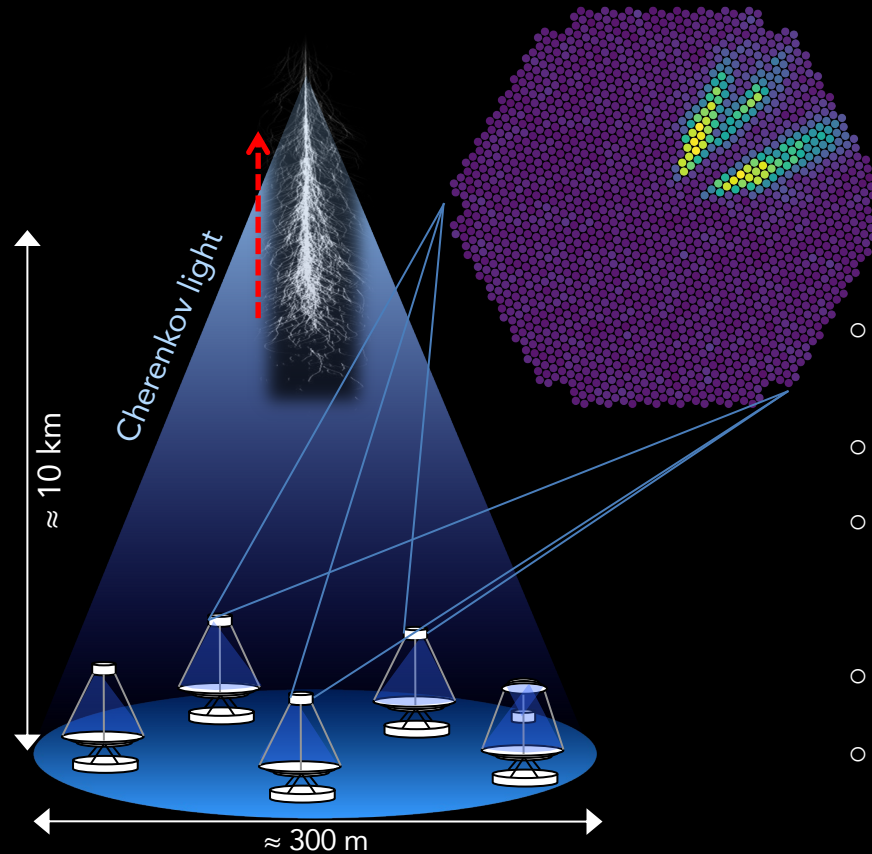
## Lorentz invariance





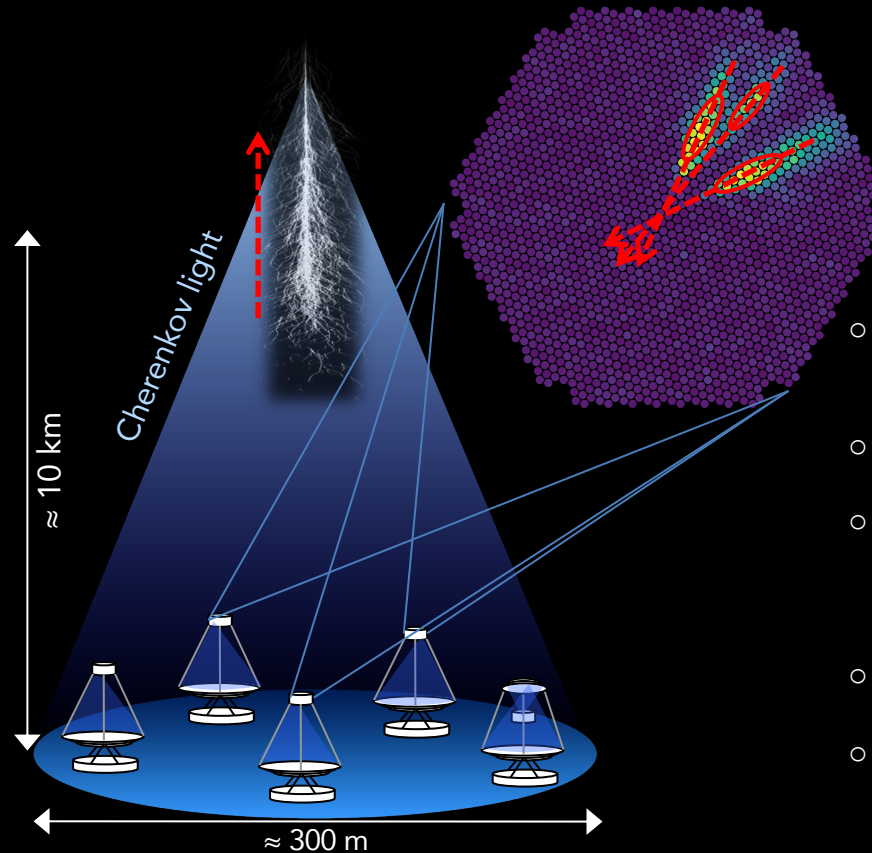


<https://www-zeuthen.desy.de/~jknapp/fs/showerimages.html>

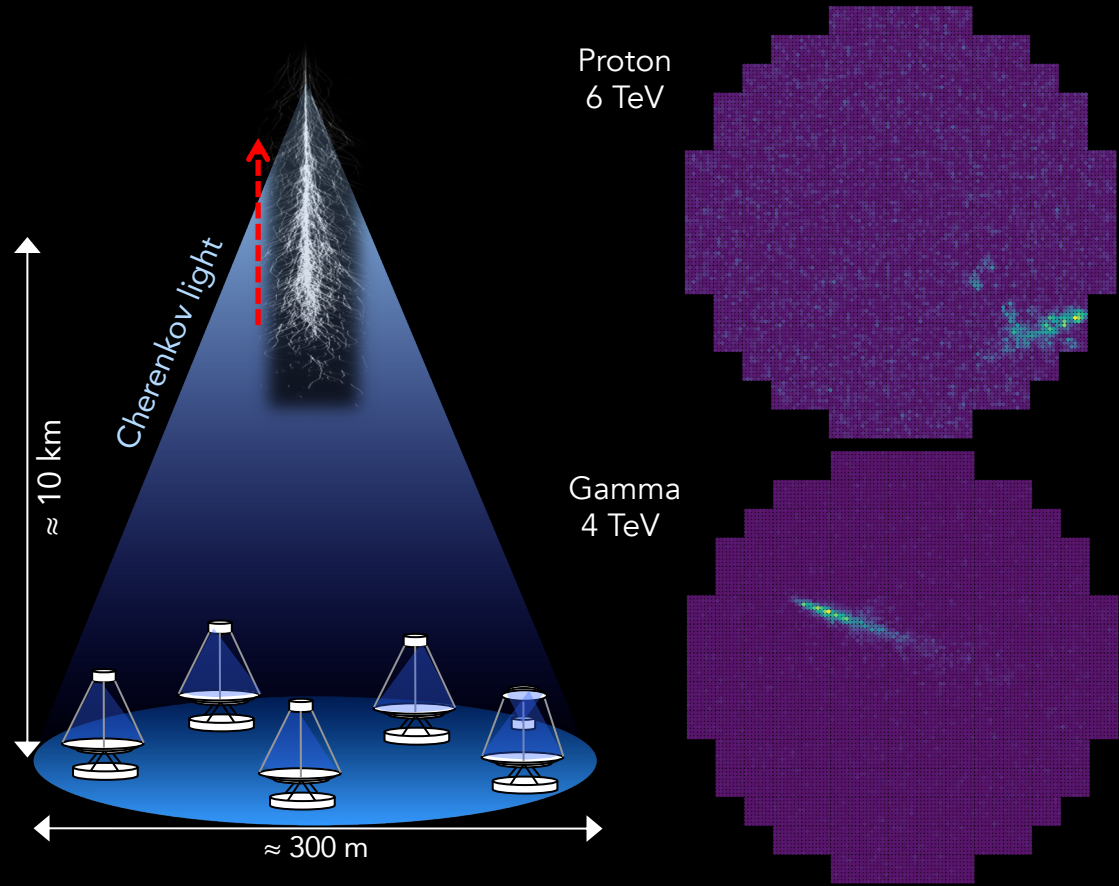


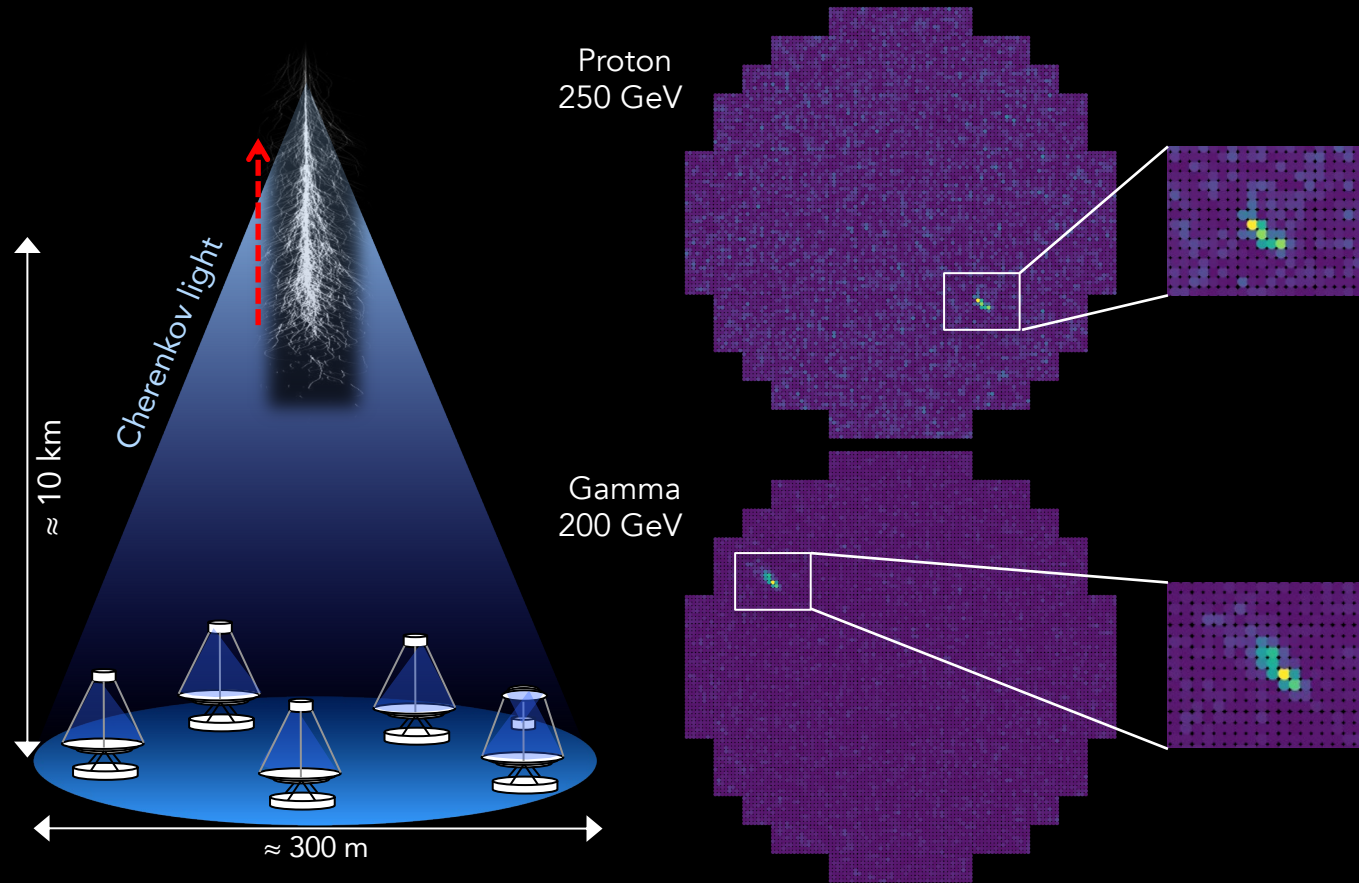
- Detection of extended air showers using the atmosphere as a calorimeter
- Huge  $\gamma$ -ray collection area ( $\sim 10^5 \text{ m}^2$ )
- Large background from charged CR
  - Partly irreducible ( $e^-/e^+$ , single-EM, with current methods)
- Energy window: tens GeV - tens TeV
- Event reconstruction from image:
  - Type of primary event
  - Primary energy estimation
  - Primary arrival direction





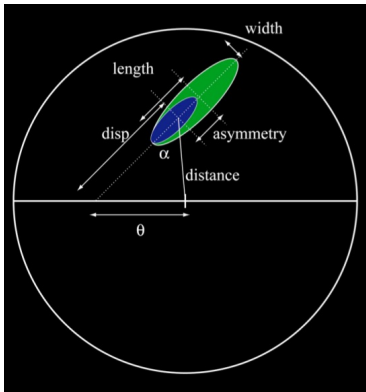
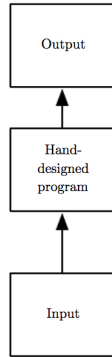
- Detection of extended air showers using the atmosphere as a calorimeter
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- Energy window: tens GeV - tens TeV
- Event reconstruction from image:
  - Type of primary event
  - Primary energy estimation
  - Primary arrival direction





Output: event type,  
energy, arrival direction

- Event type: box cuts
- Event energy: parametrization
- Event direction: parametrization

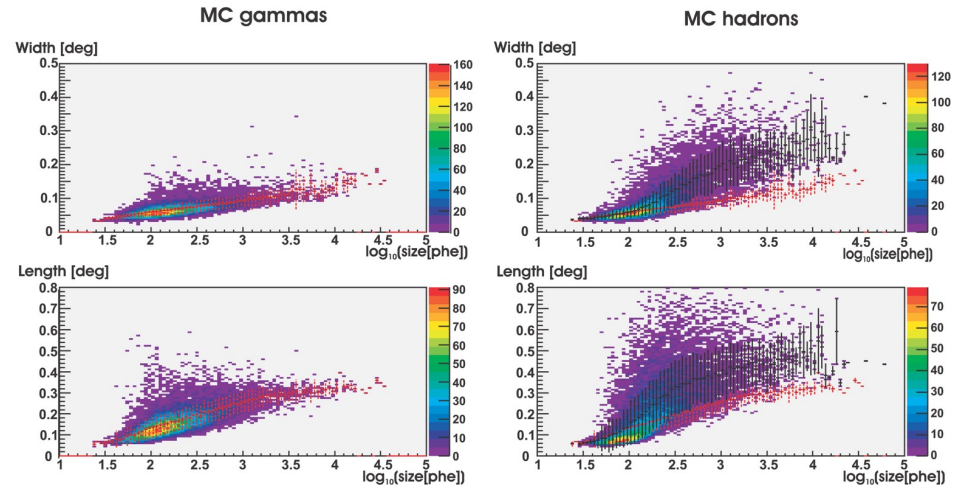


Rule-based systems

Input: observed events

e  
v  
e  
n  
t  
  
r  
e  
c  
o  
n  
s  
t  
r  
u  
c  
t  
i  
o  
n

- Based on image parametrization (Hillas parameters)

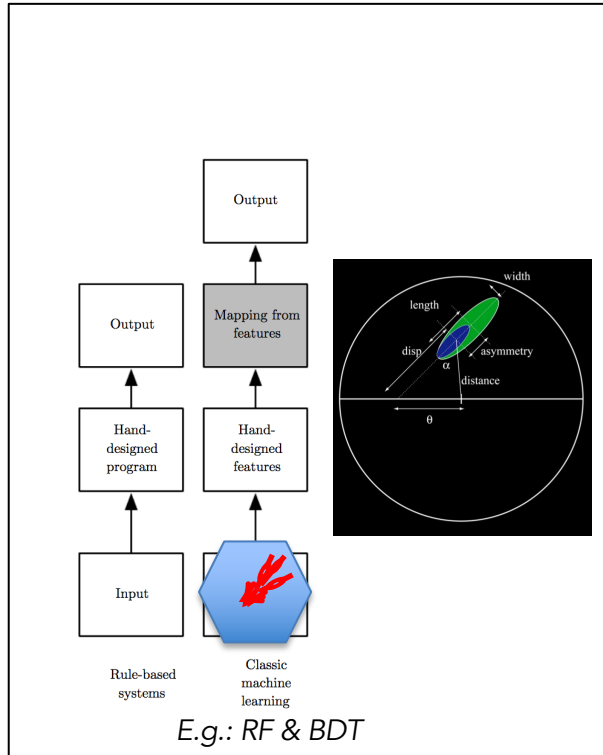


$$E = E(\text{size}, \text{distance}, h_{max})$$

$$DISP = A(\text{SIZE}) + B(\text{SIZE}) \cdot \frac{WIDTH}{LENGTH + \eta(\text{SIZE}) \cdot LEAKAGE2}$$

- Instrument calibration with real data not possible
- Strong dependency on Montecarlo simulations

Output: event type,  
energy, arrival direction



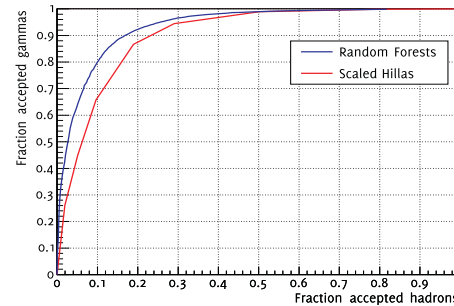
Input: observed events

e  
v  
e  
n  
t  
  
r  
e  
c  
o  
n  
s  
t  
r  
u  
c  
t  
i  
o  
n

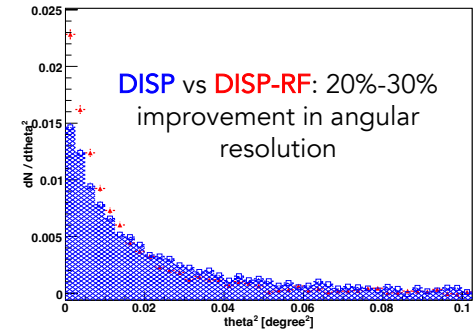
o Current generation of IACTs: classic ML



- ML method:
  - o Random Forest (RF)
- Applied to:
  - o Background rejection
  - o Arrival direction

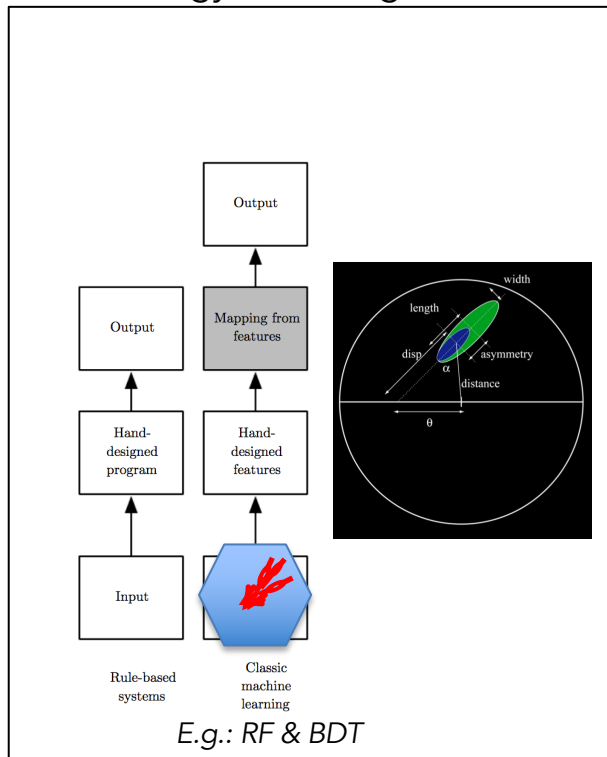


Albert et al., NIM-A 588:424-432 (2008)



Aleksic et al., A&A 524 A77 (2010)

Output: event type,  
energy, incoming direction



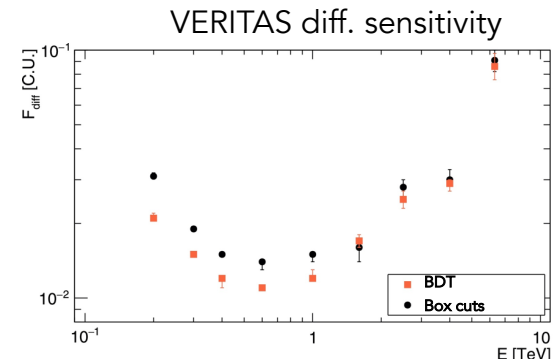
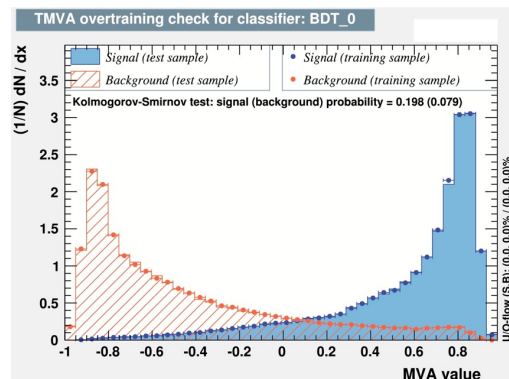
e  
v  
e  
n  
t  
  
r  
e  
c  
o  
n  
s  
t  
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u  
c  
t  
i  
o  
n

Input: observed events

○ Current generation of IACTs: classic ML

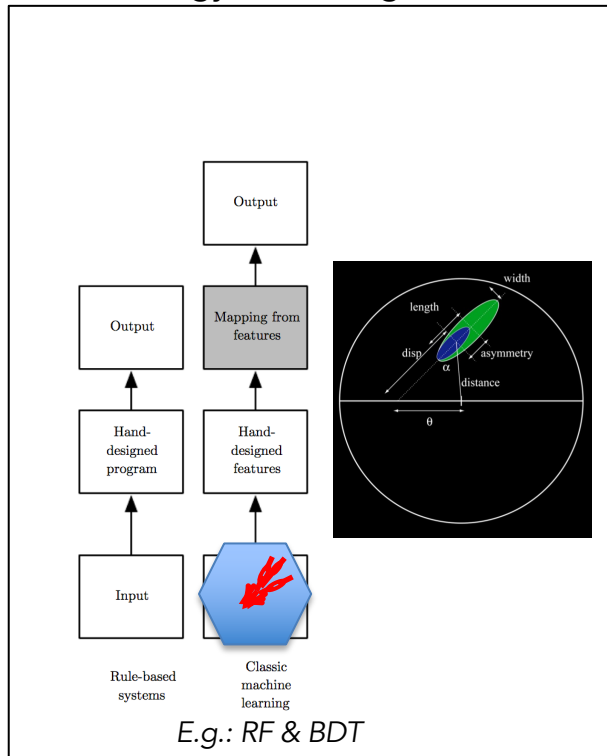


- ML method:
  - Boosted Decision Trees (BDT)
- Applied to:
  - Background rejection



Krause et al., APP V89 P1-9 (2017)

Output: event type,  
energy, incoming direction



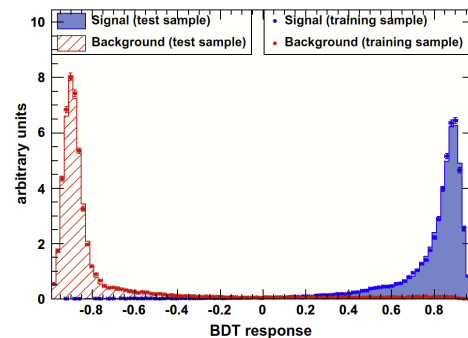
e  
v  
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r  
e  
c  
o  
n  
s  
t  
r  
u  
c  
t  
i  
o  
n

Input: observed events

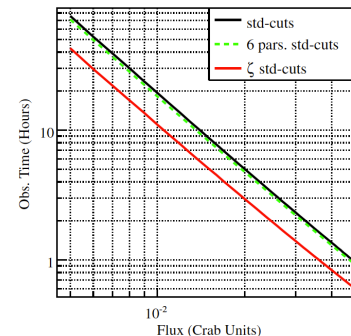
○ Current generation of IACTs: classic ML



- ML method:
  - Boosted Decision Trees (BDT)
- Applied to:
  - Background rejection



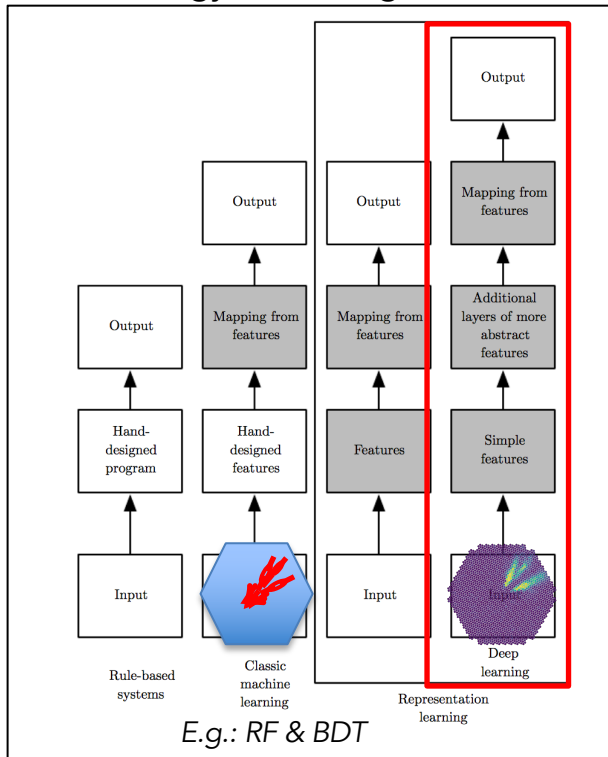
Becherini et al., APP V34-12 P858-870 (2011)



Ohm et al., APP V31-5 P383-391 (2009)

(Results for H.E.S.S. I only)

Output: event type,  
energy, incoming direction

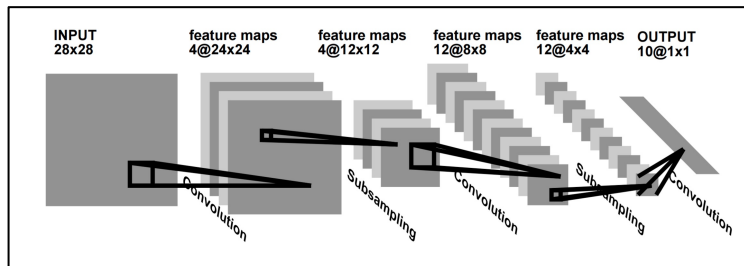


E.g.: RF & BDT

Input: observed events

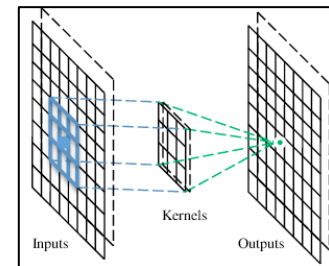
event reconstruction

## Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)



LeCunn et al.

## Convolution



Guo et al.

- DL capable of **extracting** and mapping image features automatically with unprecedented classification accuracy. Hyper-active CS research field constantly improving
- Many HEP/Astro experiments already exploring/utilizing the technique (LIGO, LHC, MicroBooNe, NOVA, etc...)

### Method:

- Use deep learning to reconstruct CTA events from non-parameterized images
  - Performance enhancement -> better sensitivity

### But there are risk...

- MC reliability (e.g. network selecting some features from your MC not present in real data)



- 5-20 fold better sensitivity w.r.t. current IACTs
- 4 decades of energy coverage: 20 GeV to 300 TeV
- Improved angular and energy resolution
- Two arrays (North/South)



cherenkov  
telescope  
array

the observatory for  
ground-based  
gamma-ray astronomy

### Low-energy range:

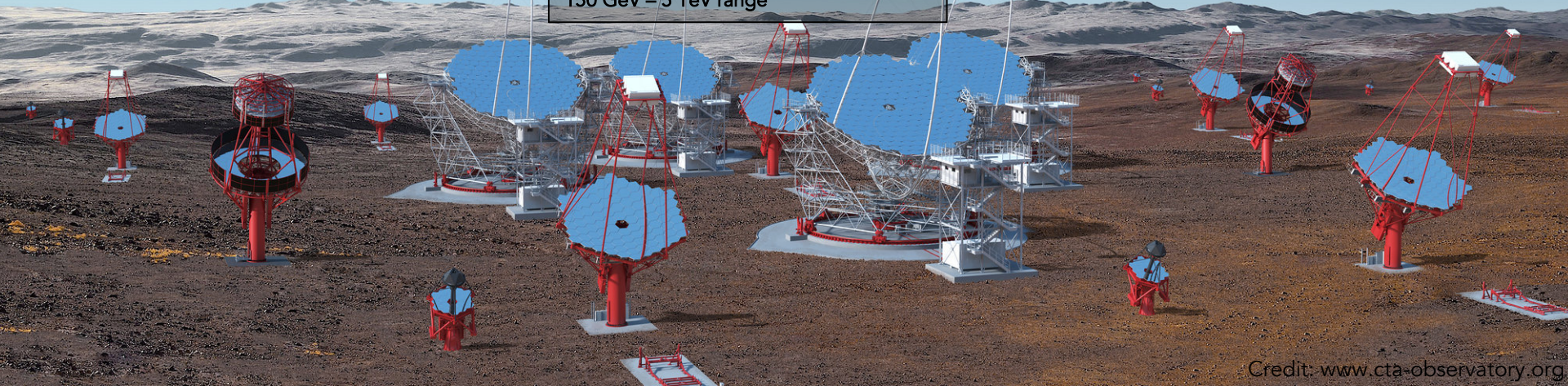
23 m  $\varnothing$   
Parabolic reflector  
4.3° FoV  
Energy threshold 20 GeV

### Mid energy-range:

12 m  $\varnothing$  modified Davies-Cotton reflector  
9.7 m  $\varnothing$  Schwarzschild-Couder reflector  
7.5° FoV  
Full system sensitivity in the  
150 GeV – 5 TeV range

### High-energy range:

4 m  $\varnothing$  Schwarzschild-Couder reflector  
10° FoV  
Several km<sup>2</sup> area at  
multi-TeV energies



Credit: [www.cta-observatory.org](http://www.cta-observatory.org)

[www.cta-observatory.org](http://www.cta-observatory.org)

Science with CTA, [arXiv:1709.07997](https://arxiv.org/abs/1709.07997)

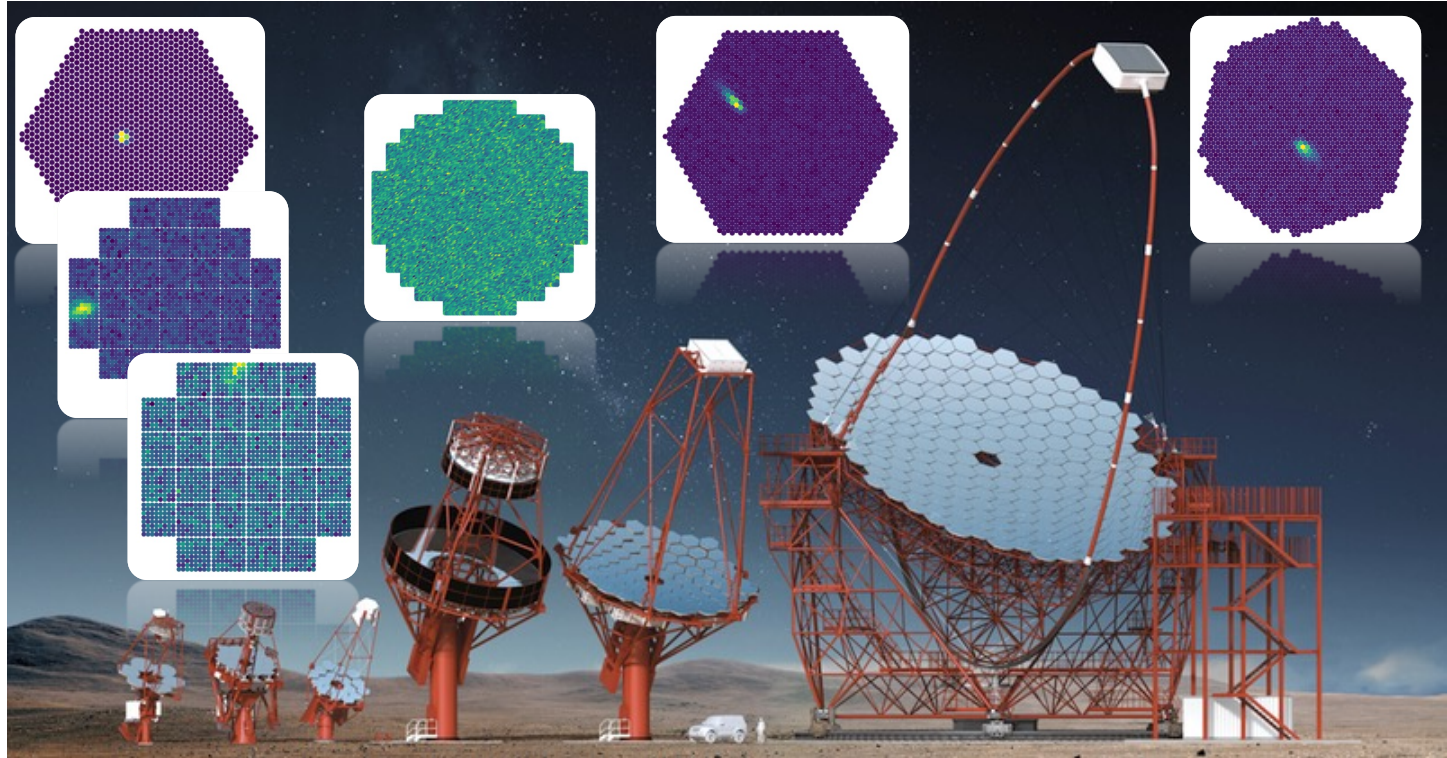
- Stereoscopy:
  - Stereoscopic view of the extended air showers
  - Compact “videos” rather than single snapshots
  - Events effectively recorded in 4D!



CREDIT: DESY/Milde Science Communication

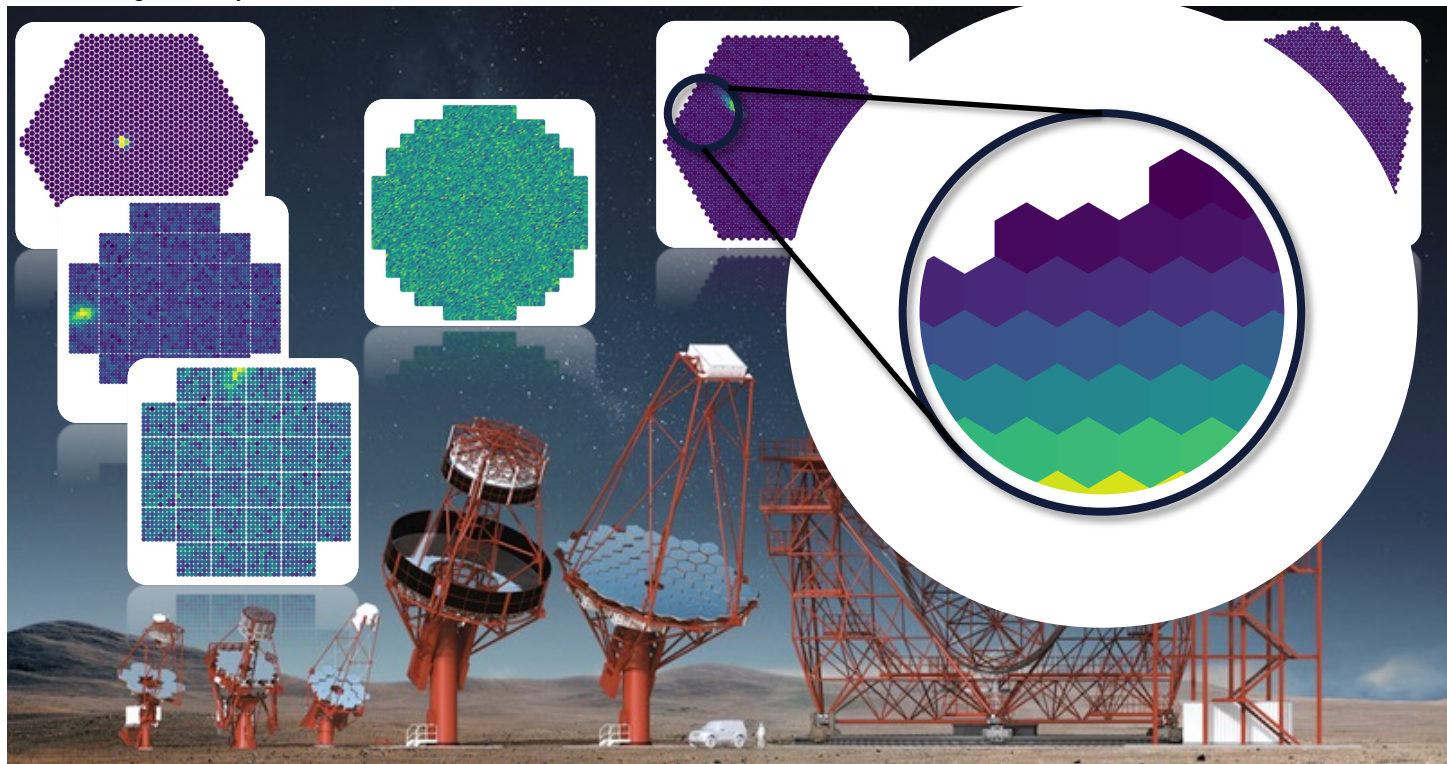
- Heterogeneity of instruments:

Camera images courtesy of T. Vuillaume



- Heterogeneity of instruments:

Camera images courtesy of T. Vuillaume

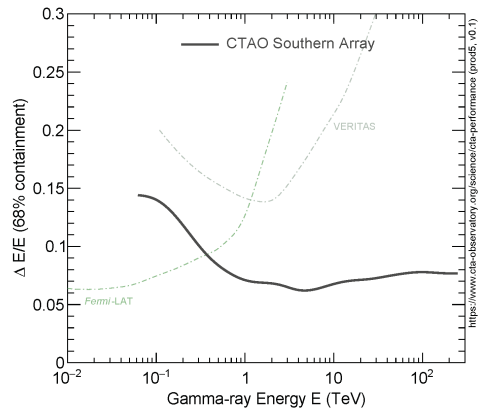


Hexagonal pixels

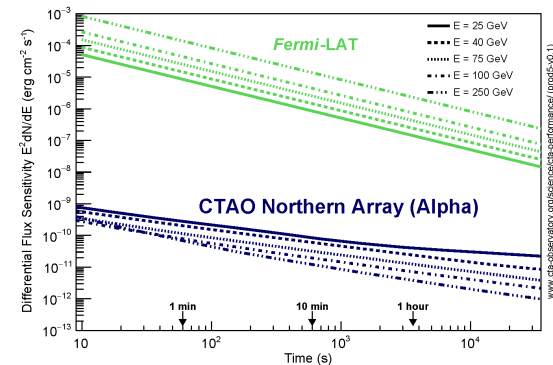
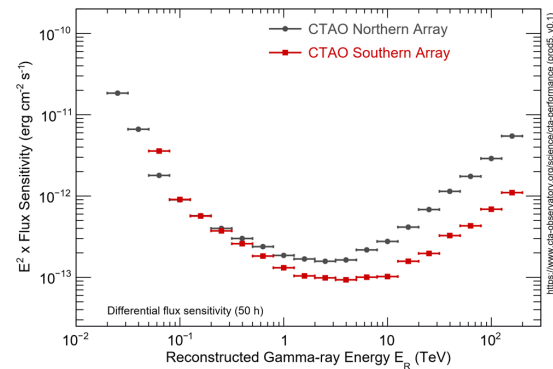
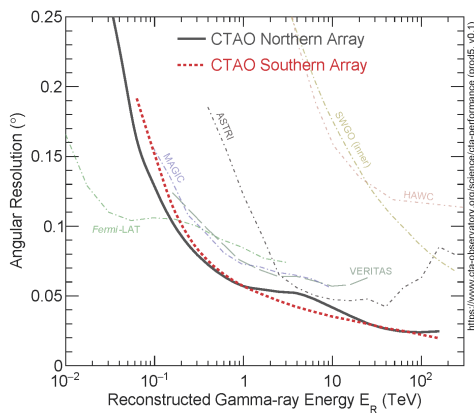
- Final metrics are far from trivial and entangled

## Flux sensitivity

## Energy resolution

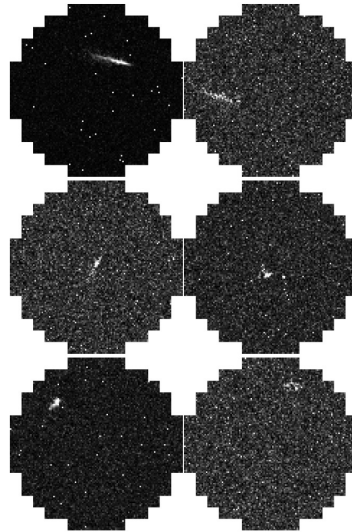


## Angular resolution

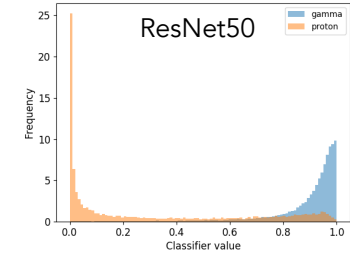
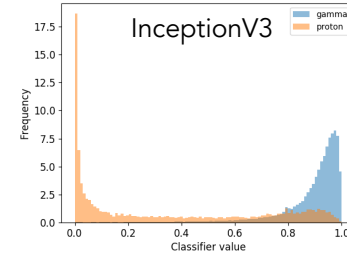




- Single telescope
- Square pixels
- Only signal charge (no timing)
- Single task: classification



Medium energies  
( $0.3 \text{ TeV} < E < 1 \text{ TeV}$ )



AUC

Model/Energy	Low E.	Med. E.	High E.
InceptionV3	84.7%	91.1%	92.0%
ResNet50	84.8%	91.4%	90.2%

- High-level Python package for using deep learning for IACT event reconstruction
- Configuration-file-based workflow and installation with conda drive reproducible training and prediction
- Supports any TensorFlow model that obeys a generic signature
- Open source on GitHub:

<https://github.com/ctlearn-project/ctlearn>

<https://pos.sissa.it/358/752>

DOI 10.5281/zenodo.3345947

(Latest release: **CTLearn v0.6.2**, 09/22)



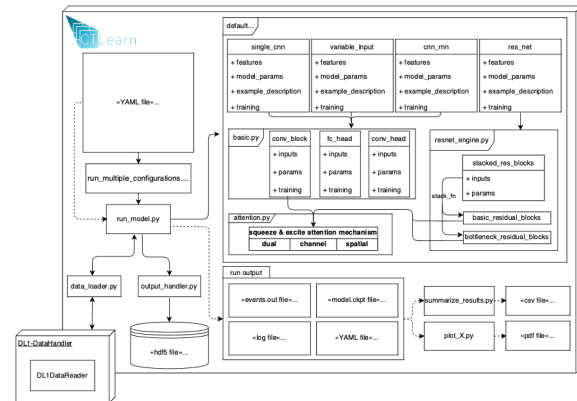
### Core developers

Tjark Miener, DN (IPARCOS-UCM)

Ari Brill, Qi Feng (Columbia)

Bryan Kim (UCLA, now at Stanford)

(See contributors [here](#))



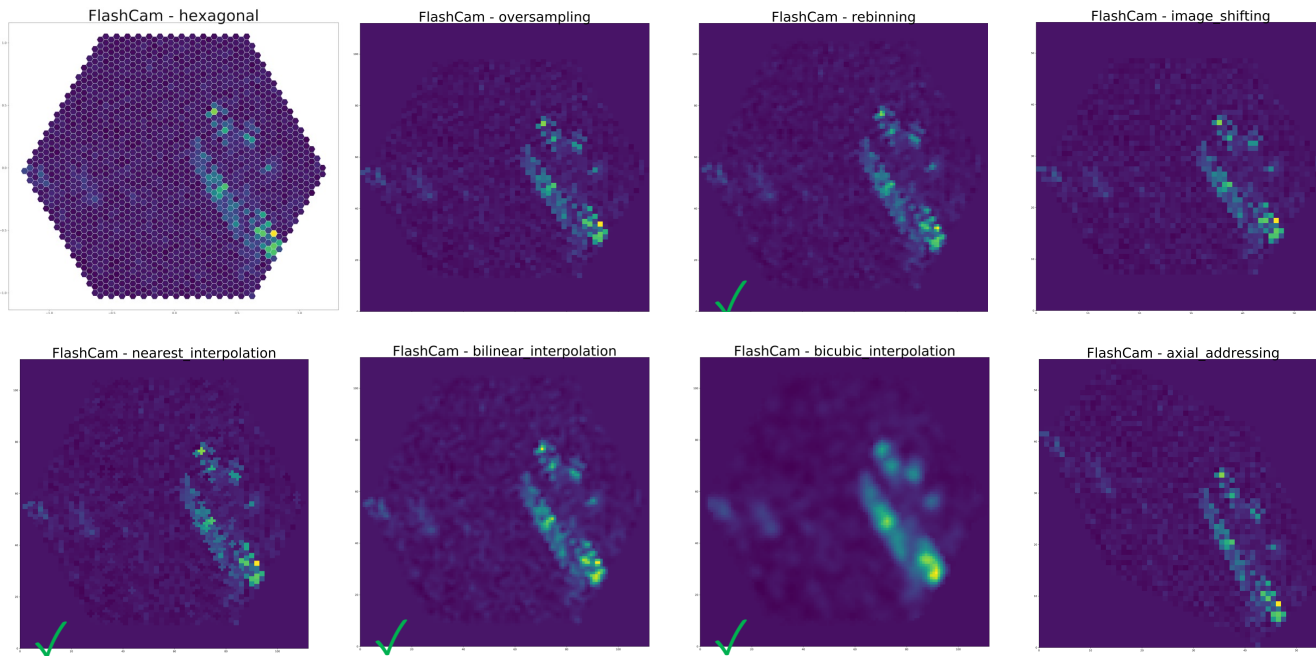
- Image mapping (preprocessing)



A. Brill, B. Kim, Q. Feng  
D. Nieto, T. Miener,  
et al.



<https://github.com/ctlearn-project/>

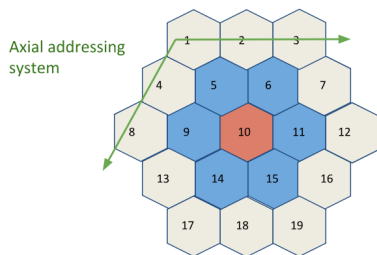


✓ Angles and distances preserved



- Hexagonal convolution

- Convolution



Convolution kernel

Index matrix

1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16
		17	18	19

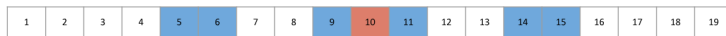


Image stored as a vector

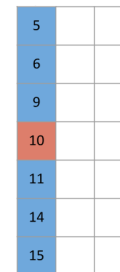


T. Vuillaume,  
M. Jaquemont, et al.

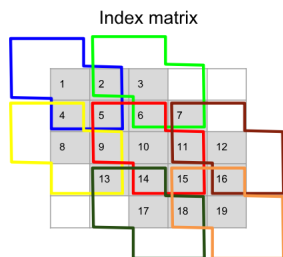


<https://github.com/IndexedConv>

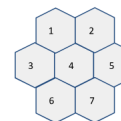
$W \times$



- Pooling

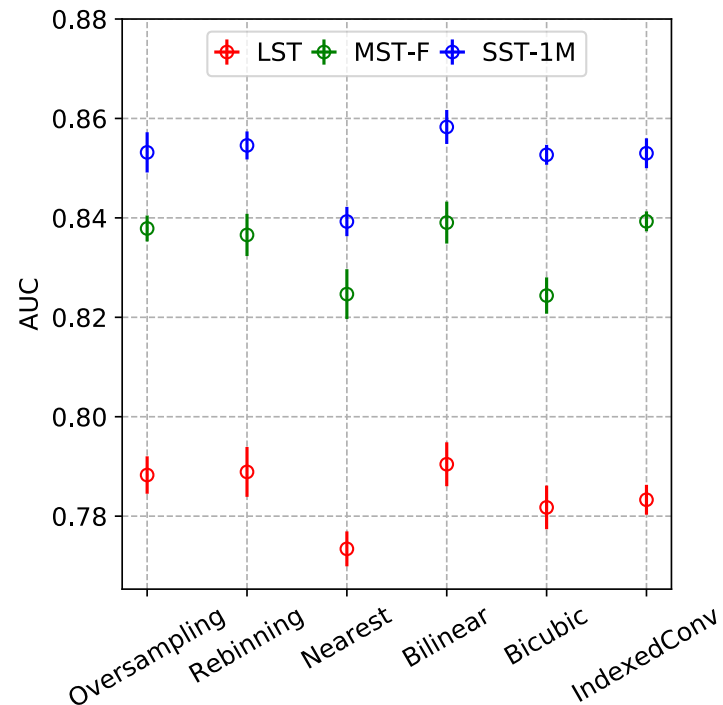
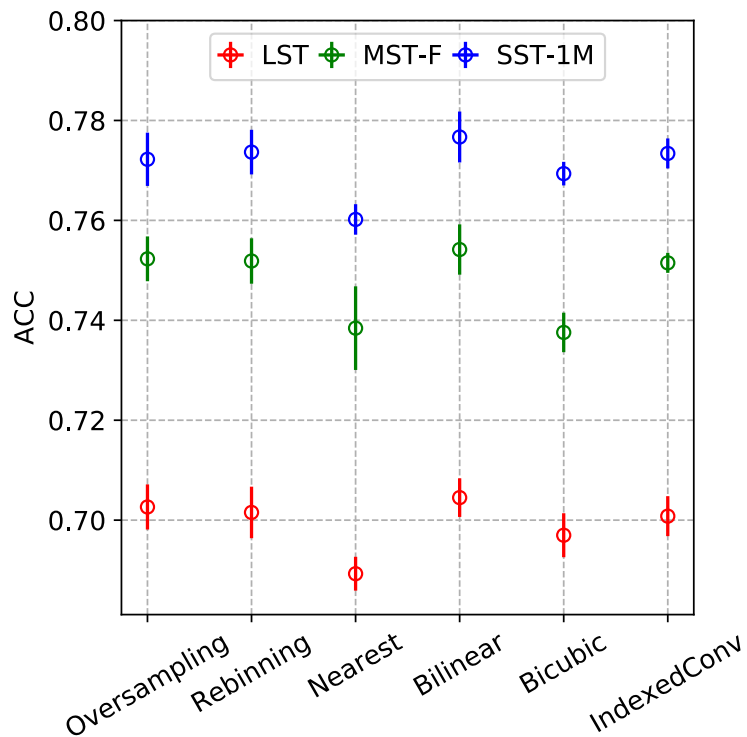


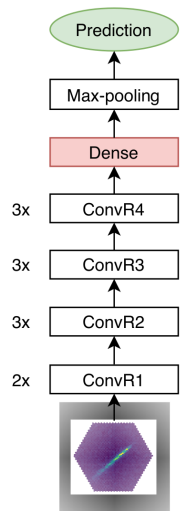
Rebuild index matrix



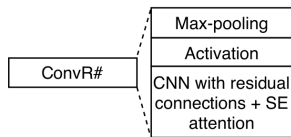
(M. Jacquemont et al. 2019)

- Comparison of methods for classification task

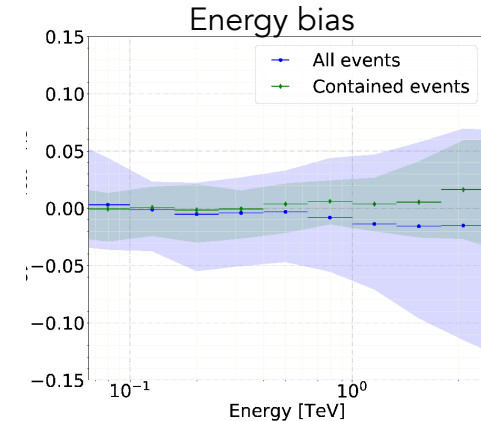
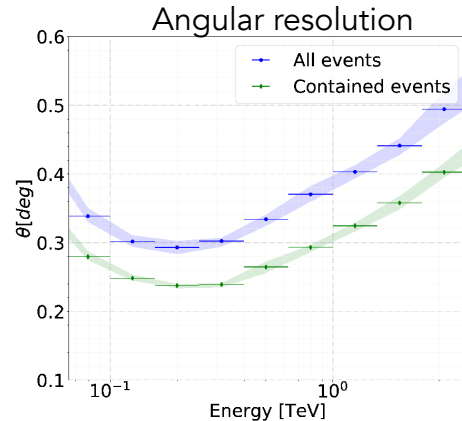
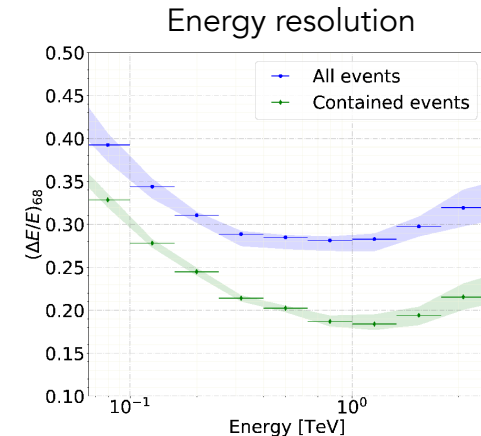
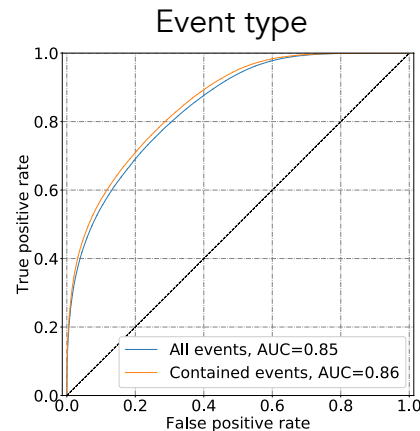
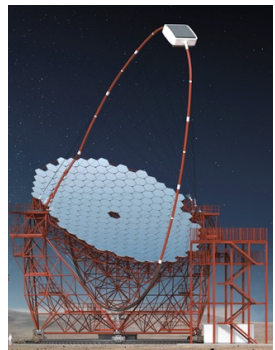




## Thin-ResNet model



Full-event reconstruction for single-telescope data achieved!



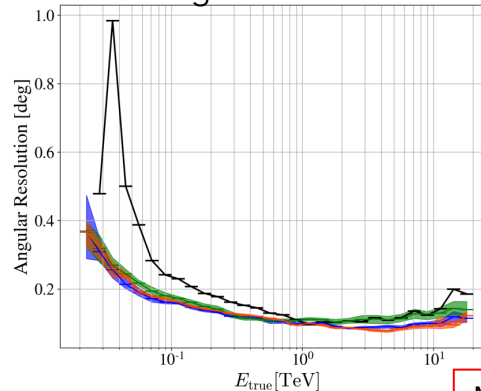
[D. Nieto et al. ADASS XXX 2020](#)



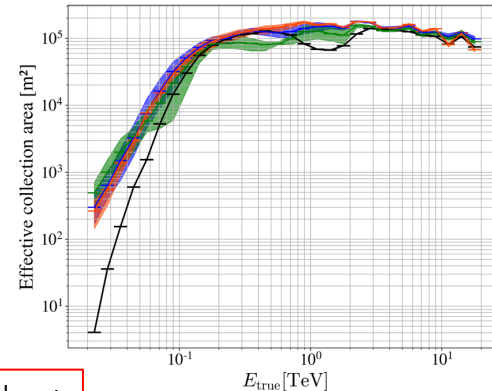
UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI PADOVA

- Crosschecking three different implementations
- Same datasets, same cuts
- Different models
- Comparison against standard analysis (RF)

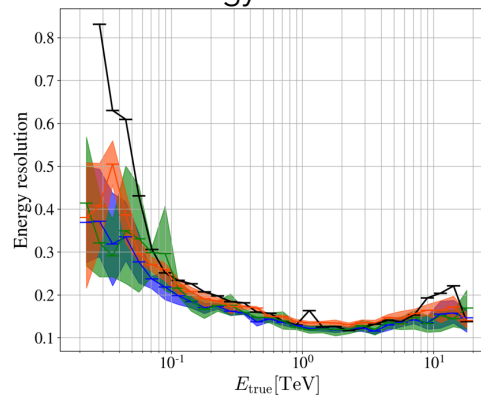
### Angular resolution



### Effective area

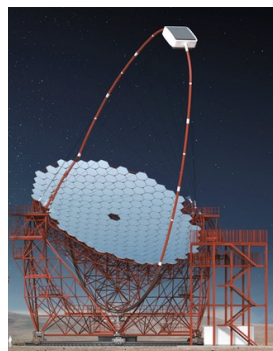
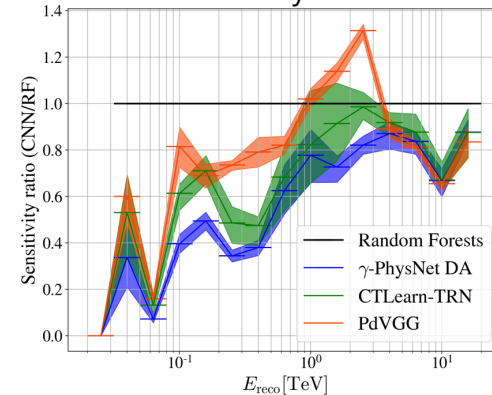


### Energy resolution

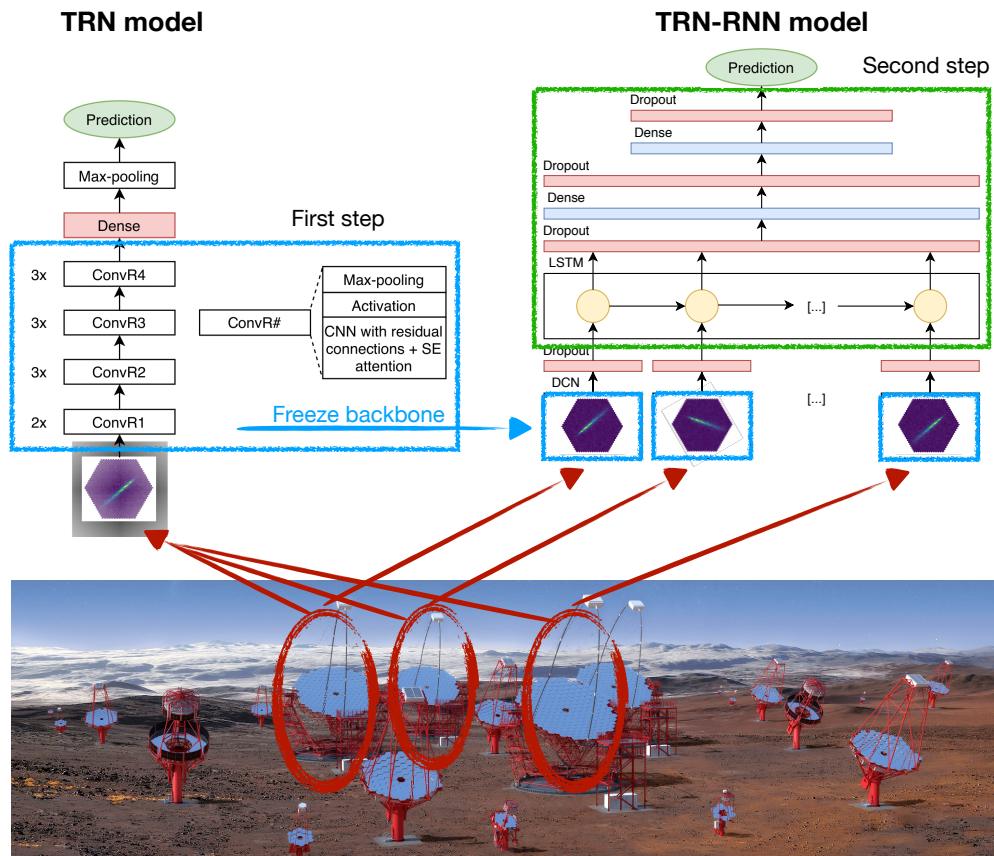


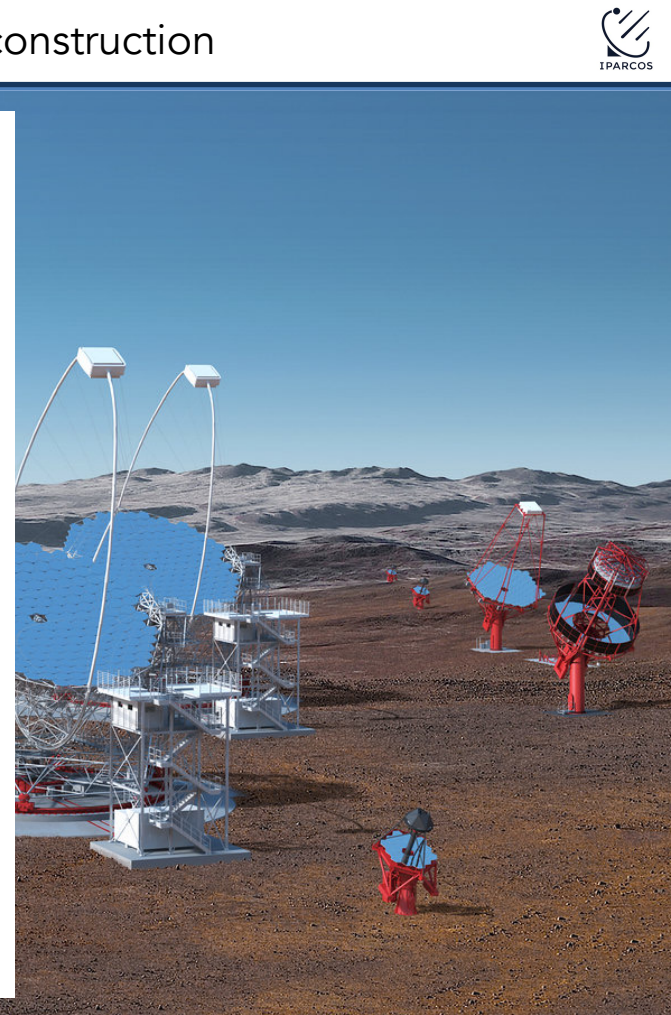
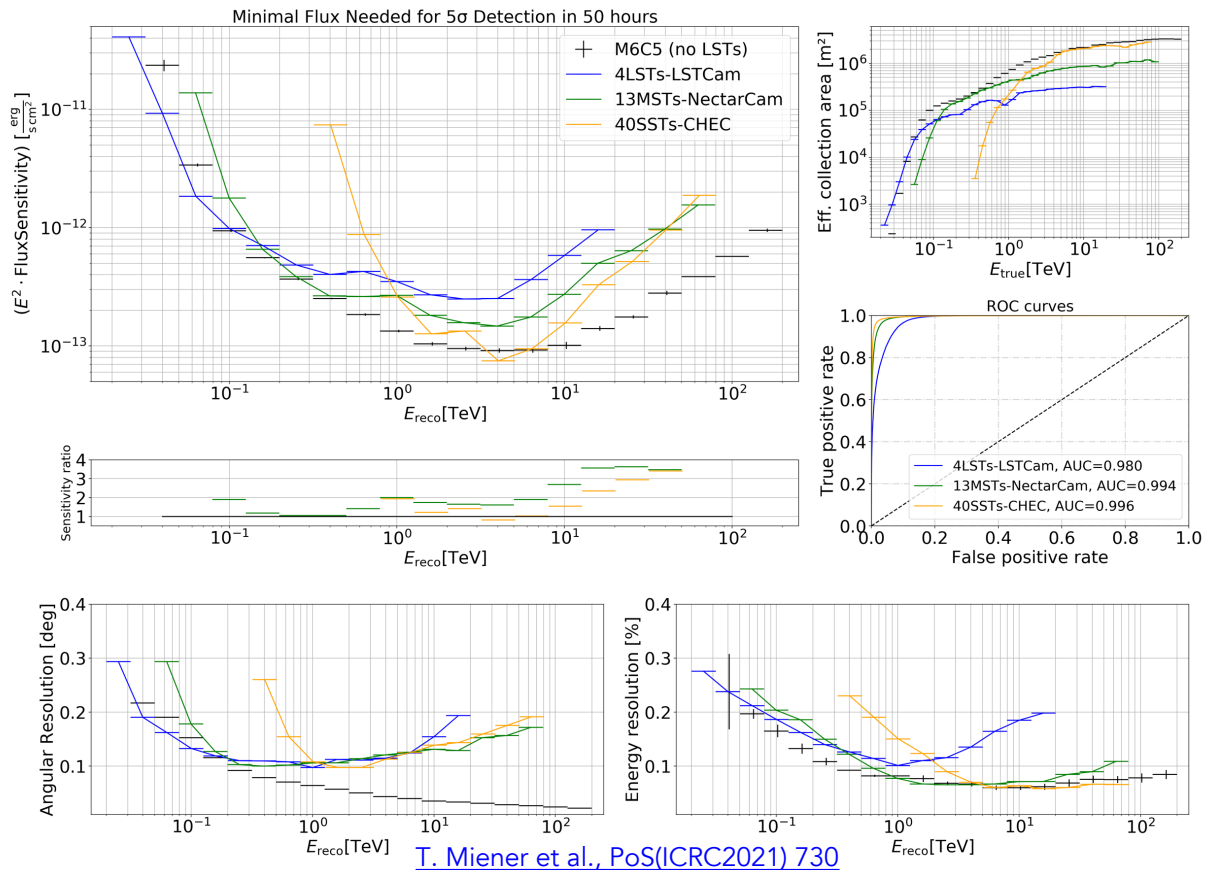
Mid cut

### Sensitivity ratio



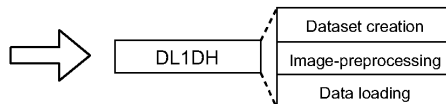
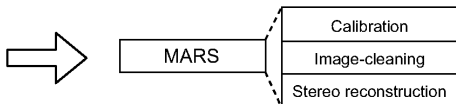
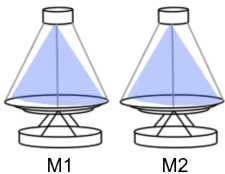
[P. Grespan et al. PoS\(ICRC2021\) 771](#)



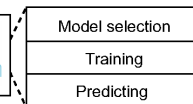




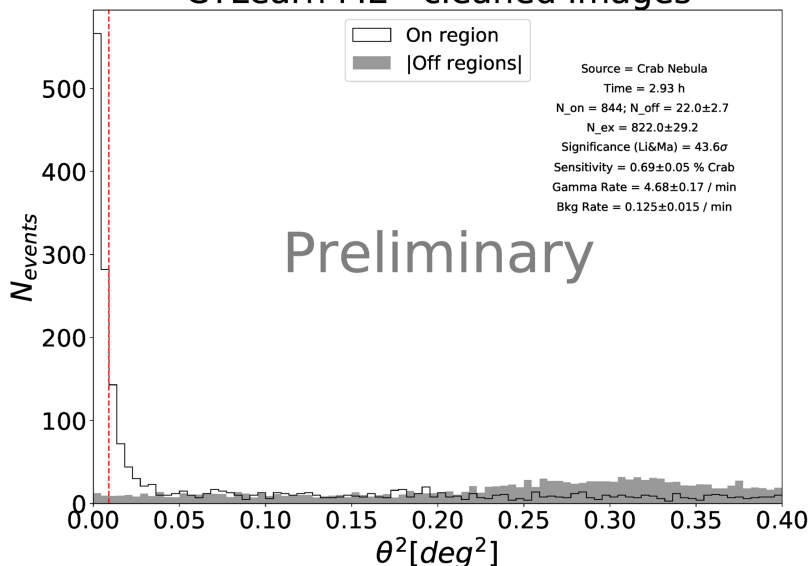
Observational data or simulations



TRN Model



## CTLearn ME - cleaned images



Analysis	$\gamma$ rate [/min]	bkg rate [/min]	Sen. [% Crab]	Sig. (Li&Ma)
MARS – ME	$4.54 \pm 0.16$	$0.119 \pm 0.015$	$0.70 \pm 0.05$	$43.0\sigma$
CTLearn – ME (raw)	$3.45 \pm 0.14$	$0.133 \pm 0.018$	$0.97 \pm 0.08$	$36.5\sigma$
<b>CTLearn – ME (cleaned)</b>	<b><math>4.68 \pm 0.17</math></b>	<b><math>0.125 \pm 0.015</math></b>	<b><math>0.69 \pm 0.05</math></b>	<b><math>43.6\sigma</math></b>
MARS – LE	$16.49 \pm 0.35$	$3.861 \pm 0.086$	$1.09 \pm 0.03$	$61.1\sigma$
CTLearn – LE (raw)	$11.70 \pm 0.32$	$3.832 \pm 0.114$	$1.53 \pm 0.05$	$47.5\sigma$
CTLearn – LE (cleaned)	$16.24 \pm 0.35$	$3.872 \pm 0.086$	$1.11 \pm 0.03$	$60.4\sigma$

Analysis	$N_{on}$	$N_{off}$	$N_{ex}$
MARS – ME	819	$21.0 \pm 2.6$	$798.0 \pm 28.7$
CTLearn – ME (raw)	629	$23.3 \pm 3.1$	$605.7 \pm 25.3$
CTLearn – ME (cleaned)	844	$22.0 \pm 2.7$	$822.0 \pm 29.2$
MARS – LE	3579	$679.0 \pm 15.0$	$2900.0 \pm 61.7$
CTLearn – LE (raw)	2730	$673.7 \pm 20.0$	$2056.3 \pm 56.0$
CTLearn – LE (cleaned)	3536	$680.7 \pm 15.1$	$2855.3 \pm 61.3$

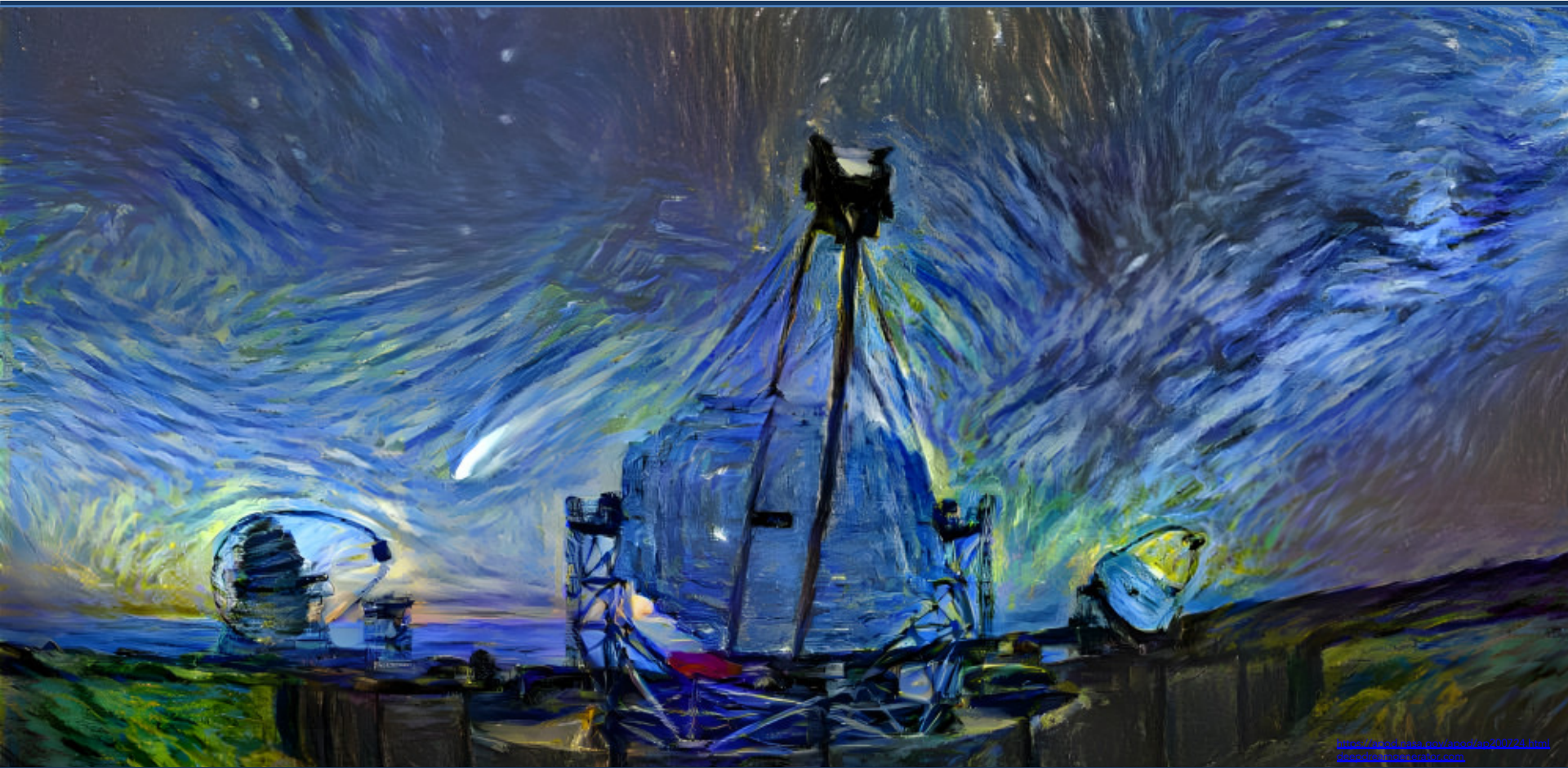
Summary of all performed analyses of the same Crab Nebula sample

[T. Miener et al. 2021 \(ADASS XXXI\)](#)



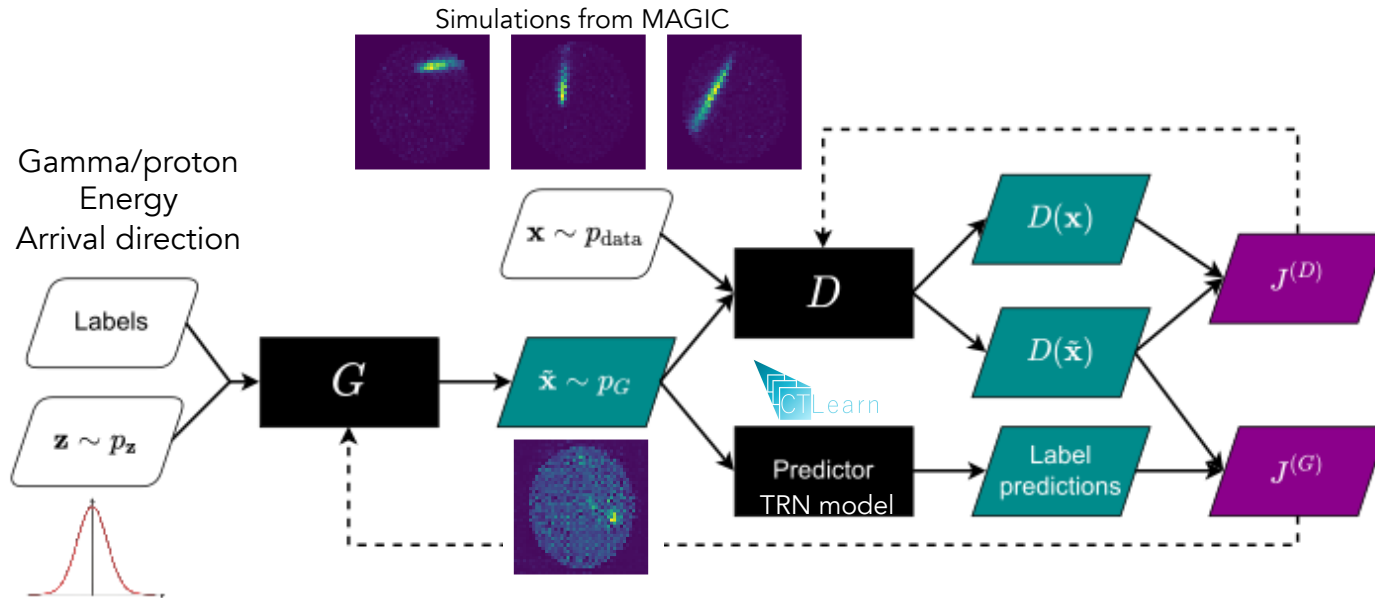
<https://apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap200724.html>





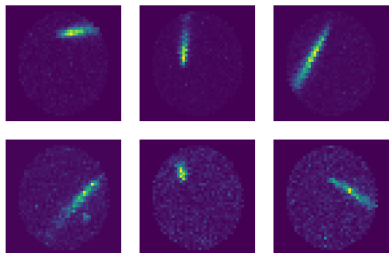
<https://photo.nasa.gov/arc02/ap200724.html>  
<https://science.nasa.gov/arc02/>

- Auxiliary conditional generative adversarial networks (AC-GANs)

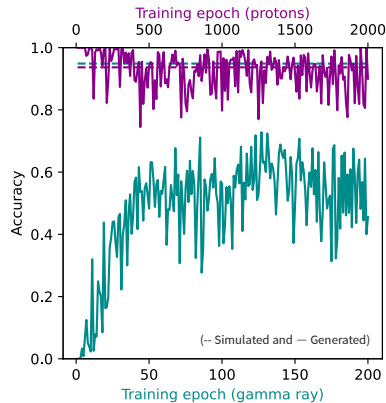
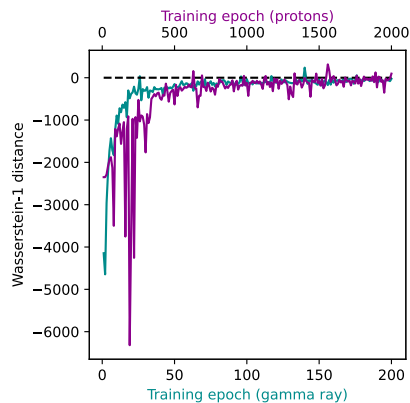
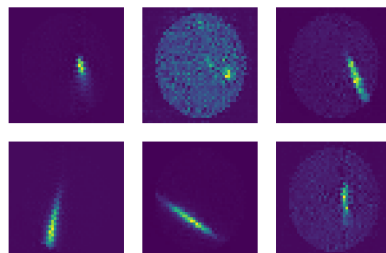


## GAMMA RAYS

Simulated

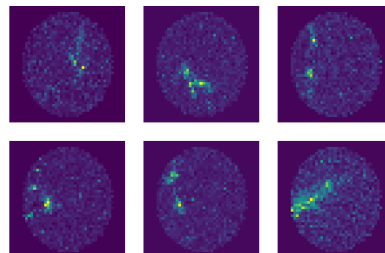


Generated

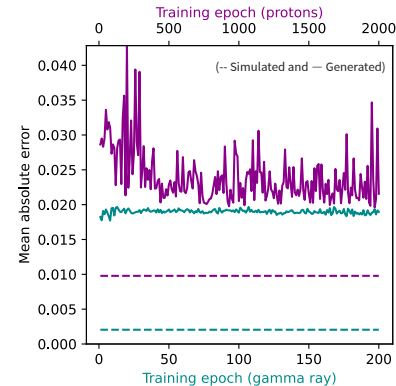
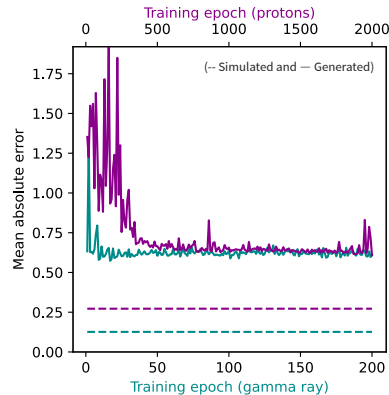
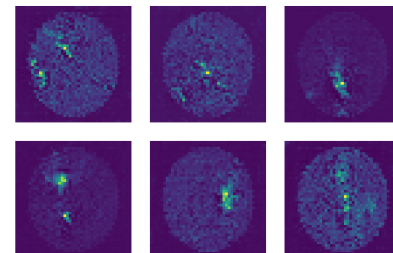


## PROTONS

Simulated

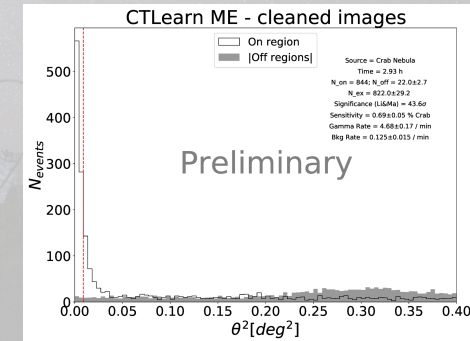
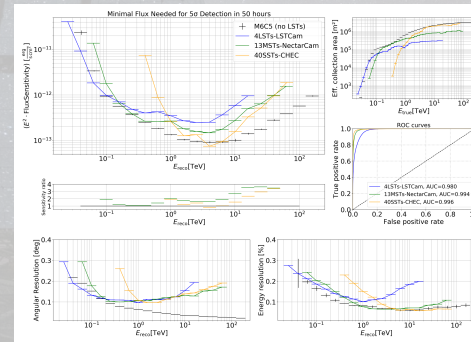
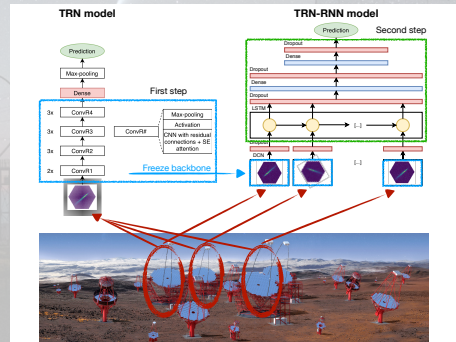
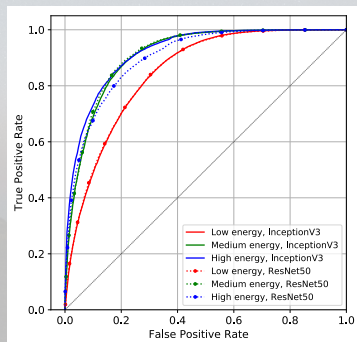


Generated



S. García-Heredia et al.

- Current-generation IACTs have enhanced their performances through ML
- Next-gen (even current-gen!) IACT may profit from latest developments in ML
- Ongoing efforts to exploit deep learning as an event reconstruction method for IACTs
  - Full-event reconstruction over simulated IACT events demonstrated
  - Application to real observations works!
  - Working on optimizing architectures & multi-task learning
  - Using AC-GANs as pseudosimulators
  - Tackling the real-data problem





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