



# Subir and the amazing boom in Astroparticle Physics

**SubirFest2023**

Oxford, 11-13 Sep 2023

**Johannes Knapp, DESY**

# Subir's CV

## Subir Sarkar

Rudolf Peierls Centre for Theoretical Physics, University of Oxford,  
Clarendon Laboratory, Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PU, United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0)1865 273962, Email: subir.sarkar@physics.ox.ac.uk  
URL: <https://www.physics.ox.ac.uk/our-people/sarkar>



### Education:

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay	PhD	1982
Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur	BSc, MSc	1972, 1974

### Employment:

2006 – 2021	Professor, University of Oxford (Head of Particle Theory Group, 2011–19)
1998 – 2006	University Lecturer in Physics & Fellow of Linacre College, Oxford
1992 – 1997	PPARC Advanced Fellow & Research Fellow, Wolfson College, Oxford
1990 – 1992	Glasstone Research Fellow, Theoretical Physics, University of Oxford
1987 – 1988	Research Associate, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton
1985 – 1986	Visiting Fellow, Department of Astrophysics, University of Oxford
1984 – 1985	Research Associate, European Organisation for Nuclear Research, Geneva
1983 – 1984	Visiting Fellow, Scuola Internazionale Superiore di Studi Avanzati, Trieste
1979 – 1984	Research Associate, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay

### Research interests:

Theory: Astroparticle physics; Cosmology; High energy astrophysics; Particle phenomenology  
Experiments: CERN WA-66 (1985), Auger (2003–12), IceCube (2004–), CTA (2010–), QSHS (2019–), Rubin-LSST (2021–)

**Publications**: ADS, arXiv, Google Scholar, INSPIRE, ORCID, Web of Science (448 papers, 81,237 citations, h-index=97)

### Awards:

- Bruno Rossi Prize of the American Astronomical Society to the IceCube Collaboration, 2021 [shared]
- IUPAP-TIFR Homi Bhabha Medal & Prize, 2017
- Niels Bohr Professorship, University of Copenhagen, 2013–18
- Senior Fellowship, UK Science & Technology Facilities Council, 2006–09
- Advanced Fellowship, UK Particle Physics & Astronomy Research Council, 1992–97
- Indian National Science Talent Scholarship, 1969–78

### Visiting Positions:

- Adjunct Professor, Raman Research Institute, 2019–22
- Associate, Discovery Center, Niels Bohr Institute, Copenhagen, 2010–20
- Associate, Institute of Particle Physics Phenomenology, Durham, 2011–12
- Adjunct Professor, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Kolkata, 2008–13
- Adjunct Professor, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, 2006–09

### Academic Service:

- ★ Member, Particle Data Group (2001–)
- ★ Advisory Board: Sant Cugat Forum on Astrophysics (2012–); Helmholtz Alliance on Astroparticle Physics (2012–17); Gruber Cosmology Prize (2014–20); Institute of Physics, Universiteit van Amsterdam (2016–21)
- ★ Editorial Board: SciPost (2016–), Pramana (2013–20), European Physical Journal C (2012–15)
- ★ Scientific Council, International Center for Theoretical Physics Asia-Pacific, Beijing (2018–)
- ★ Steering Committee, European Centre for Astroparticle Theory (2019–20)
- ★ Member, Scientific & Technology Advisory Committee, KM3NeT (2013–20); Requirements Review Panel, CTA (2012)
- ★ Member, IUPAP Commission C4: Astroparticle Physics (2022–25); Programme Review Committee, ApPEC (2005–14); Science Advisory Committee, ASPERA (2007–12); Science Vision Working Group, ASTRONET (2006–08)
- ★ Steering Committee, Astroparticle Physics Group, UK Institute of Physics (2006–08)
- ★ Coordinator, EU Marie Curie Research & Training Networks: UniverseNet (2006–10), Supersymmetry & the Early Universe (2000–04); Member, EU Marie Curie Initial Training Network: UniLHC (2009–13)
- ★ Chair, Consultation Panel on Astroparticle Physics, STFC Programmatic Review (2008)
- ★ Co-ordinator, Oxford-India Network on Theoretical Physical Sciences (2006–21)
- ★ Referee: EC, ERC, ESA; FNU, Denmark; AERES, France; Humboldt Stiftung, DFG & Helmholtz Gemeinschaft, Germany; Ministry of Education, Greece; DAE & DST, India; ANVUR & INFN, Italy; NWO, Netherlands; Royal Society of New Zealand; NRF, South Africa; SNSF, Switzerland; Leverhulme Trust, Royal Society, EPSRC & STFC, UK; DoE & NSF, USA

1982 PhD TIFR, Bombay

1984 Postdocs at TIFR Trieste, CERN, RAL

1990 Staff at U Oxford

2019 formally retired

Theory,  
Astroparticle Physics, Cosmology,  
High-Energy Astrophysics, Early Universe,  
Particle Phenomenology

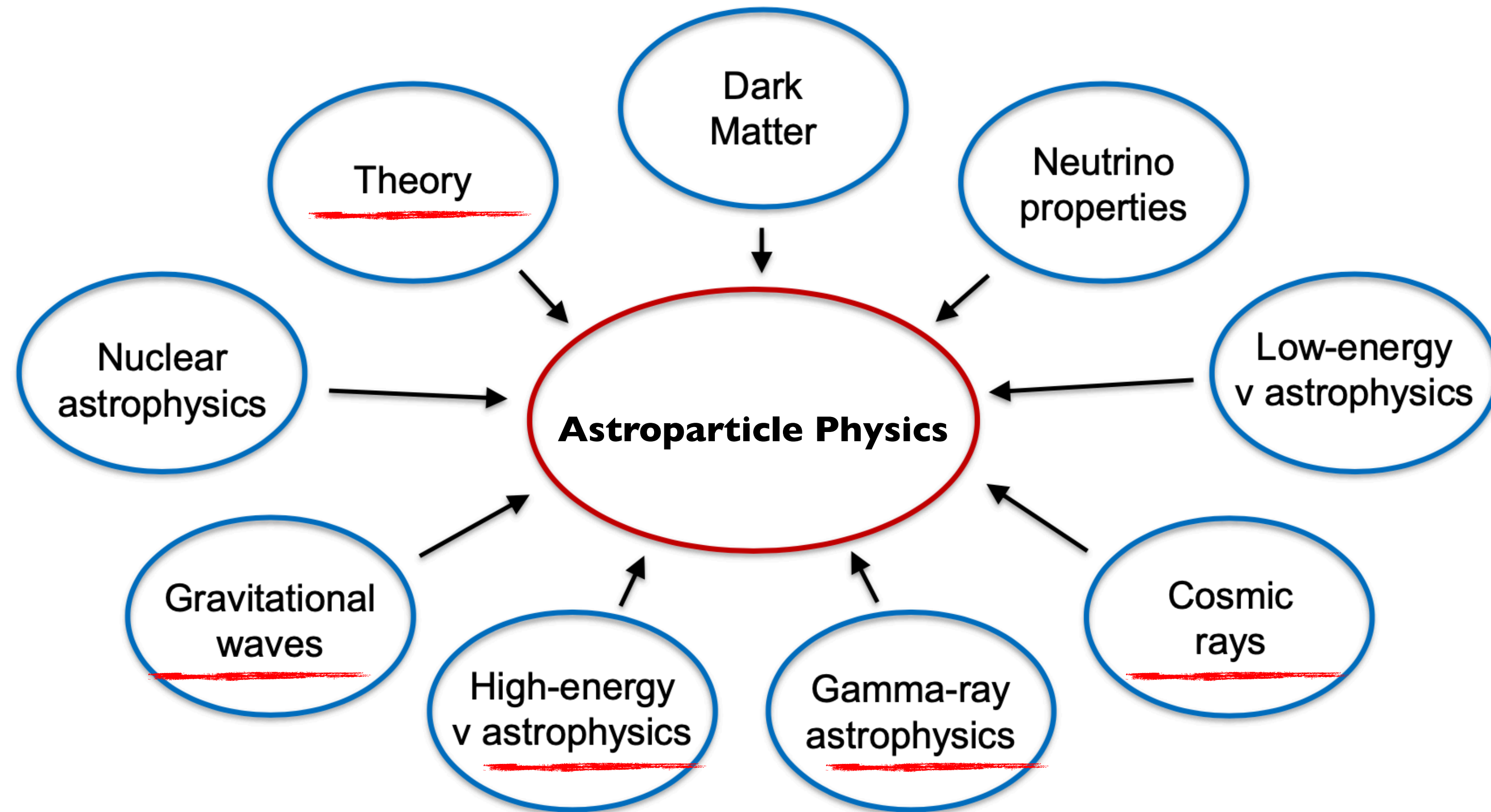
but always close to Experiments:

CERN WA-66 (1985), Auger (2003–12),  
IceCube (2004–), CTA (2010–),  
QSHS (2019–), Rubin-LSST (2021–)

The physics behind, Methodology, Statistical data analysis

Many achievements, services, honours

# Astroparticle Physics



## Relation to Particle Physics:

Nature of DM  
Neutrino Physics  
Hadronic Interactions  
Beyond SM

## New windows to Astrophysics & Cosmology:

UHE particles (CRs, gamma rays, neutrinos)  
Gravitational waves  
DM

**Subir's career** coincides with the **boom in Astroparticle Physics.**

1982 Subir's PhD

1984 Subir at CERN

1990 arrival in Oxford

1998 involvement in the Pierre Auger Experiment

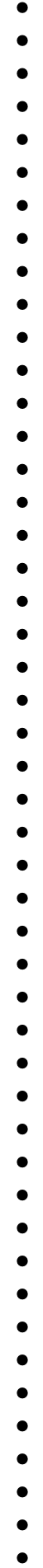
2006 involvement with AMANDA / IceCube

2009 involvement in CTA

2013 Niels Bohr Professorship, Kobenhagen

2017 Bhabha Medal

**today: a highly successful scientist  
with outstanding worldwide reputation.**



1987:

SNR 1987a

1989:

first TeV gamma ray source: Crab nebula

1998:

accelerated expansion of the universe

2004:

HESS detects 16 new sources  
(in its first year of operation)  
AUGER starts operation

2013

first astrophysical neutrinos seen with IceCube

2015:

grav. waves detected from BH-BH mergers

2018

First neutrino source identified TXS 0506+056

**today:**

**APP has become a mature research area  
with great results in the past decades  
and lasting fascination and potential.**

# Subir's beginnings

1976-78: CR composition measurements on SKYLAB

1979: Are Gamma Ray Sources also Cosmic Ray Sources?

1980: A lower limit to the magnetic field in Cassiopeia-A

1980: Gamma ray emission from supernova remnants

**1982:** PhD Thesis University of Bombay

**High Energy Astrophysics of Supernova Remnants**

1982: Does the galactic synchrotron radio background originate in old supernova remnants?

The evolution of the radio spectra of supernova remnants.

1983: Acceleration of Electrons in Supernova Remnants

Supernova Remnants and their X-Ray Emission

18<sup>th</sup> ICRC 1983 Bangalore, India

Subir at CERN:

1984: Astrophysical consequences of  $n-\bar{n}$  oscillations

The evolution of supernova remnants as radio sources

first Nature paper

Cosmological and experimental constraints on the tau neutrino

Early Nucleosynthesis

S Sarkar, AM Cooper

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1984: Astrophysical consequences of  $n-\bar{n}$  oscillations

The evolution of supernova remnants as radio sources

first Nature paper

2 citations, but one is from another paper of Subir

Cosmological and experimental constraints on the tau neutrino

Early Nucleosynthesis

S Sarkar, AM Cooper

S Sarkar, AM Cooper

- 1985: The cosmology of decaying gravitinos  
J Ellis, DV Nanopoulos, S Sarkar
- Bounds on light gluinos from the BEBC beam dump experiment  
AM Cooper-Sarkar, S Sarkar, .....
- Search for heavy neutrino decays in the BEBC beam dump  
experiment  
AM Cooper-Sarkar, S Sarkar, .....
- 1986: Primordial nucleosynthesis, additional neutrinos and neutral currents  
from the superstring
- Cosmological and astrophysical constraints on particle physics
- Particle physics and the standard cosmology
- 1988: Low-Mass Photinos and Supernova 1987a  
J Ellis, KA Olive, S Sarkar, DW Sciama

... in general with few, but well-known co-authors



# **1990: Arrival at Oxford ...**

**By then, a very broad basis has been laid for Subir's future work ...**

**Confront theory with experiments to test the standard models**

(of **particle physics**, and of **cosmology**)

**and any other models / theories**

- with all available data,**
- be critical and rigorous,**
- use the best proven methods,**
- work with the best available people.**

**1998: New results from SNR observations:  
The Universe shows an accelerated expansion.  
“Dark Energy”**

**Subir’s motto:  
(not afraid of controversies)**

**“Extraordinary claims  
require  
extraordinary evidence”**

- control of the experiment
- transparency on calibration & analysis.
- detailed documentation of every step of analysis

**1998: New results from SNR observations:  
The Universe shows an accelerated expansion.  
“Dark Energy”**

**Subir’s motto:  
(not afraid of controversies)**

**Evidence for anisotropy of cosmic acceleration**

J Colin, R Mohayaee, M Rameez, S Sarkar

Astronomy & Astrophysics 631, 2019, L13

“ ... Thus the cosmic acceleration deduced from supernovae may be an artefact ... rather than evidence for a dominant component of “dark energy” in the Universe.”

**“Extraordinary claims  
require  
extraordinary evidence”**

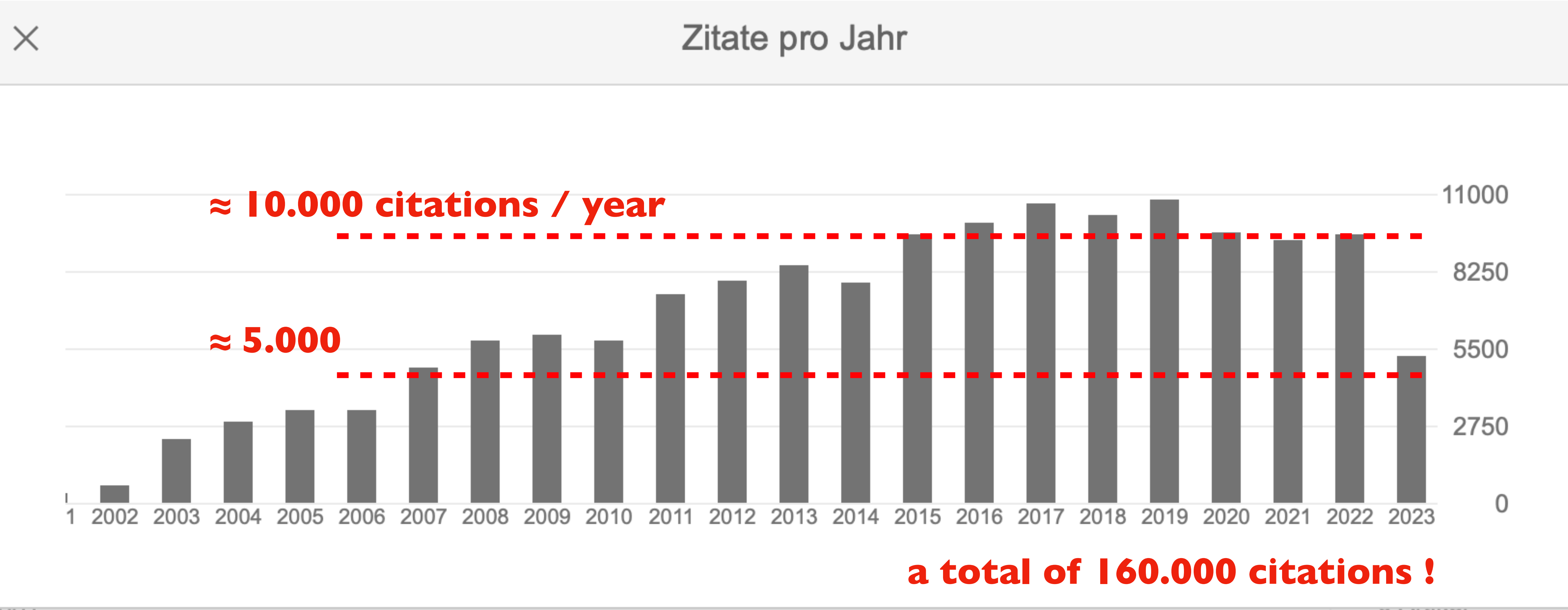
- control of the experiment
- transparency on calibration & analysis.
- detailed documentation of every step of analysis

**Heart of darkness**

S Sarkar

Inference: International Review of Science 6 (4) 2022

# Subir's papers are relevant and very well cited:



# Subir's most cited papers:

Review of Particle Physics

2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020

≈ 5.000 - 14.000 citations each !!!

Review Articles “Big Bang Nucleosynthesis”

S Sarkar with 1 or 2 co-authors.

based on the article:

Big Bang Nucleosynthesis and **physics beyond the Standard Model**

Subir Sarkar, Reports on Prog. in Phys. 59, 1493 (1996).

680 citations.

# more well-cited papers:

The cosmology of **decaying gravitinos**

J Ellis, DV Nanopoulos, S Sarkar Nuclear Physics B 259 (1985), 175-188

522 citations

Astrophysical constraints on **massive unstable neutral relic particles**

J Ellis, GB Gelmini, JL Lopez, DV Nanopoulos, S Sarkar  
Nuclear Physics B 373 (1992), 399-437

527 citations

**Tests of quantum gravity** from observations of  $\gamma$ -ray bursts

G Amelino-Camelia, J Ellis, NE Mavromatos, DV Nanopoulos,  
S Sarkar Nature 393 (1998), 763

1791 citations

Extremely high energy cosmic rays from **relic particle decays**

M Birkel, S Sarkar  
Astroparticle Physics 9 (1998), 297-309

351 citations

The high energy neutrino cross-section in the Standard Model and  
its uncertainty, A Cooper-Sarkar, P Mertsch, S Sarkar

Journal of High Energy Physics (2011) (8), 42

279 citations

A travel guide to the **dark matter annihilation** signal

NW Evans, F Ferrer, S Sarkar Physical Review D 69 (2004), 123501

277 citations

**Evidence for  
“new physics” in  
astroparticle phys.  
or cosmology  
observations ?**

# Subir joins experimental projects:

Some well cited papers of big collaborations: Auger, IceCube, CTA ...

## Auger

Correlation of the highest-energy cosmic rays with nearby extragalactic objects

Pierre Auger Collaboration, Science 318 (5852), 2007, 938-943

**1291 citations**

Observation of the Suppression of the Flux of Cosmic Rays above  $4 \times 10^{19}$  eV

J Abraham et al., Physical Review Letters 101, 2008, 061101

**1132**

## IceCube

First observation of PeV-energy neutrinos with IceCube

MG Aartsen et al., Physical review letters 111 (2), 2013, 021103

**1028**

Observation of high-energy astrophysical neutrinos in three years of IceCube data

MG Aartsen et al., Physical Review Letters 113 (10), 2014, 101101

**1791**

Neutrino emission from the direction of the blazar TXS 0506+ 056  
prior to the IceCube-170922A alert

M Aartsen et al., Science 361 (6398), 2018, 147-151

**1114**

## CTA

Design concepts for the Cherenkov Telescope Array CTA

CTA Consortium, Experimental Astronomy 32 (3), 2011, 193-316

**936**

Science with the Cherenkov Telescope Array

CTA Consortium, 2017

**511**

## **Subir's role experimental projects:**

good feel for the science case from the beginning;  
making the case for successful funding applications;

identify worthwhile analyses,  
the experimenters alone might overlook

scrutinise the papers written, especially the  
introduction (science case) and  
conclusions (interpretation / implications);

...

**and, of course, help with the hardware.**





Subir doing hardware  
at Auger in Malargue

Subir: “Auger was very worthwhile doing”

PPARC was first agency to commit  
construction money for Auger.

5 h car drives between Mendoza - Malargüe:  
great to have Subir as co-driver:  
good discussions on physics and life.



## Some topics of research of Subir and colleagues relating to Auger:

Exotic neutrino interactions with the Pierre Auger Observatory 2005

S.S. + L Anchordoqui, D Hooper, ...

A blind search for correlations of Auger events with BL Lacs 2006

S.S. + F Ferrer

The intergalactic propagation of ultra-high energy cosmic ray nuclei 2007

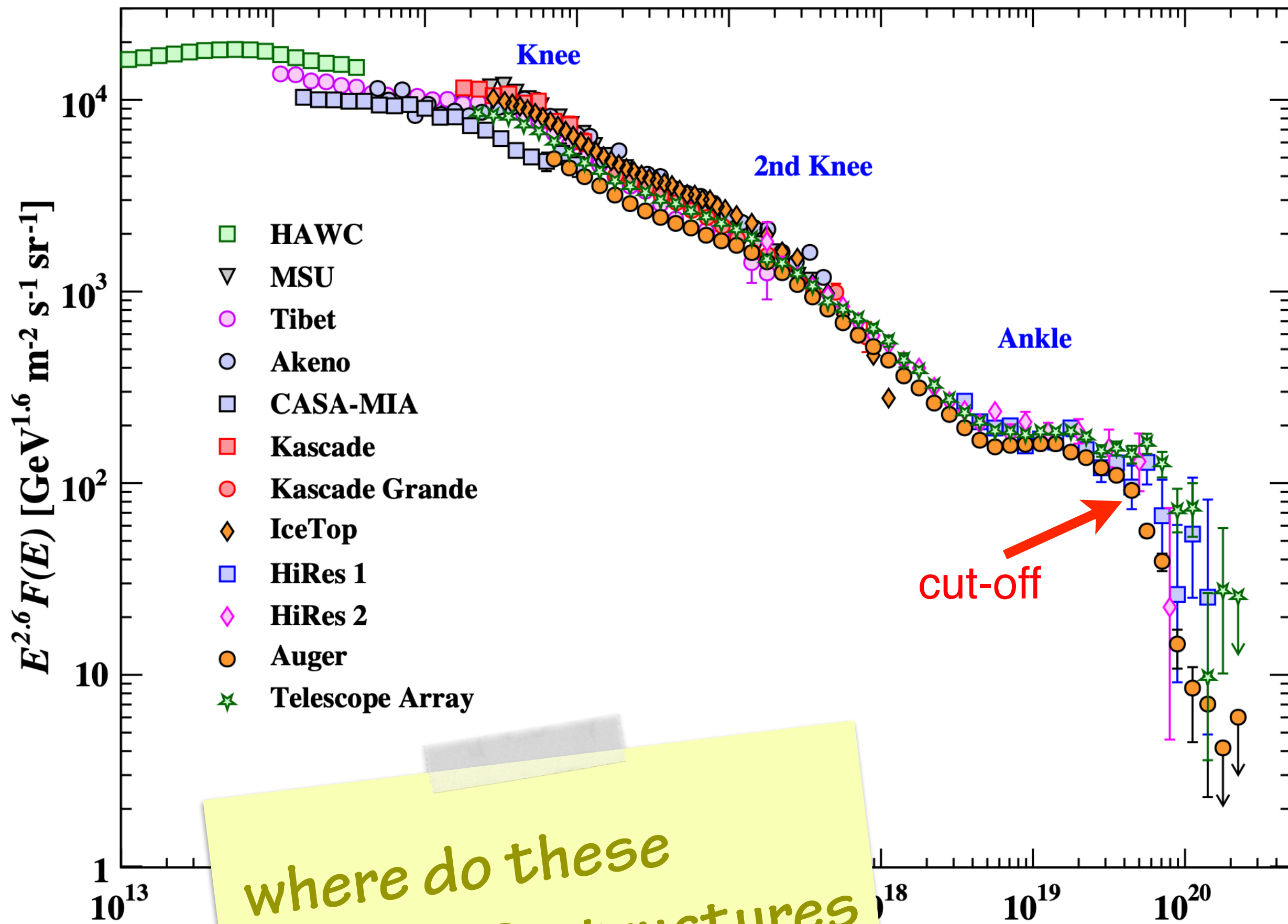
S.S. + D Hooper, AM Taylor

Precision Auger data and the “GZK cutoff” 2010

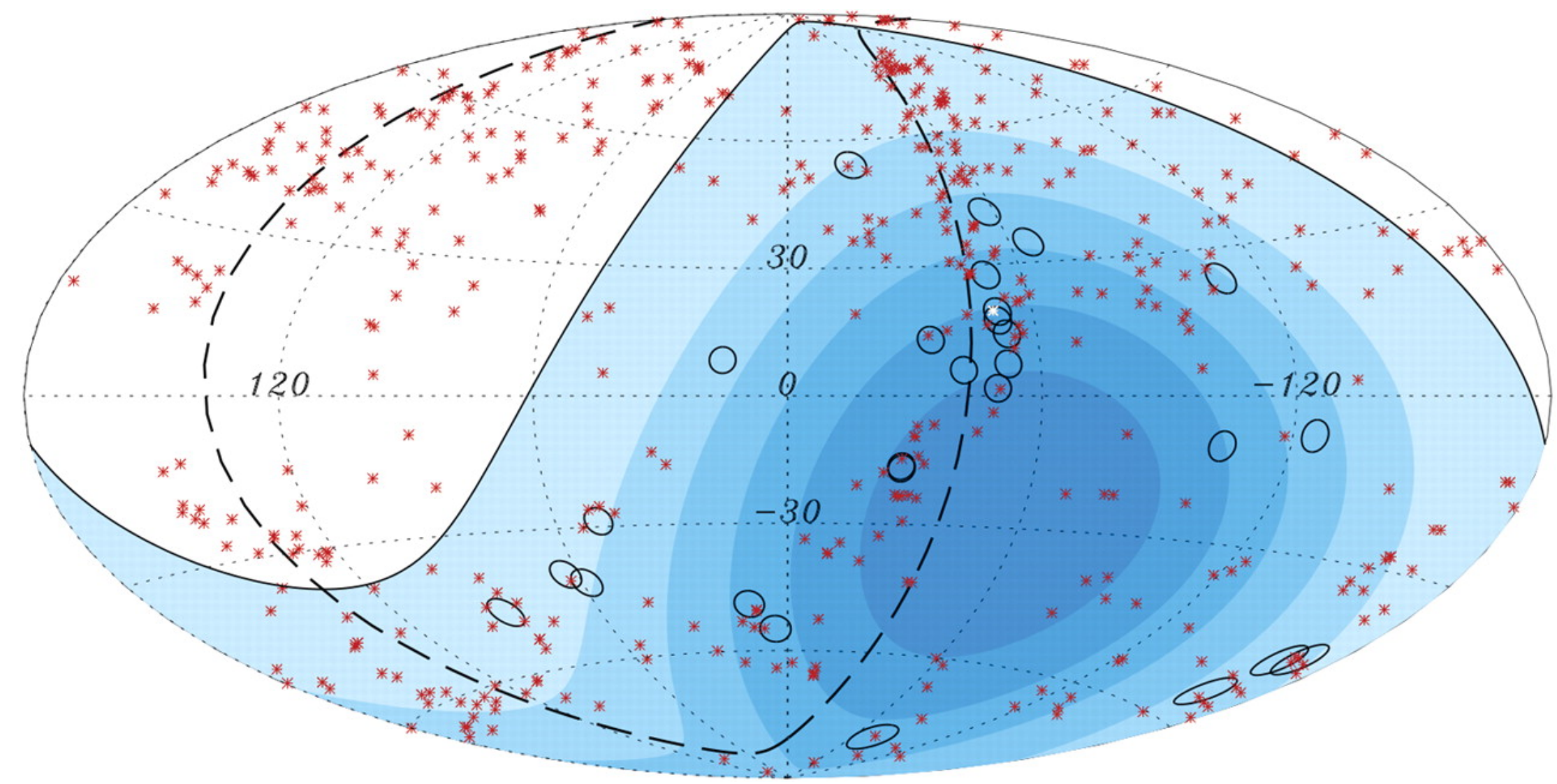
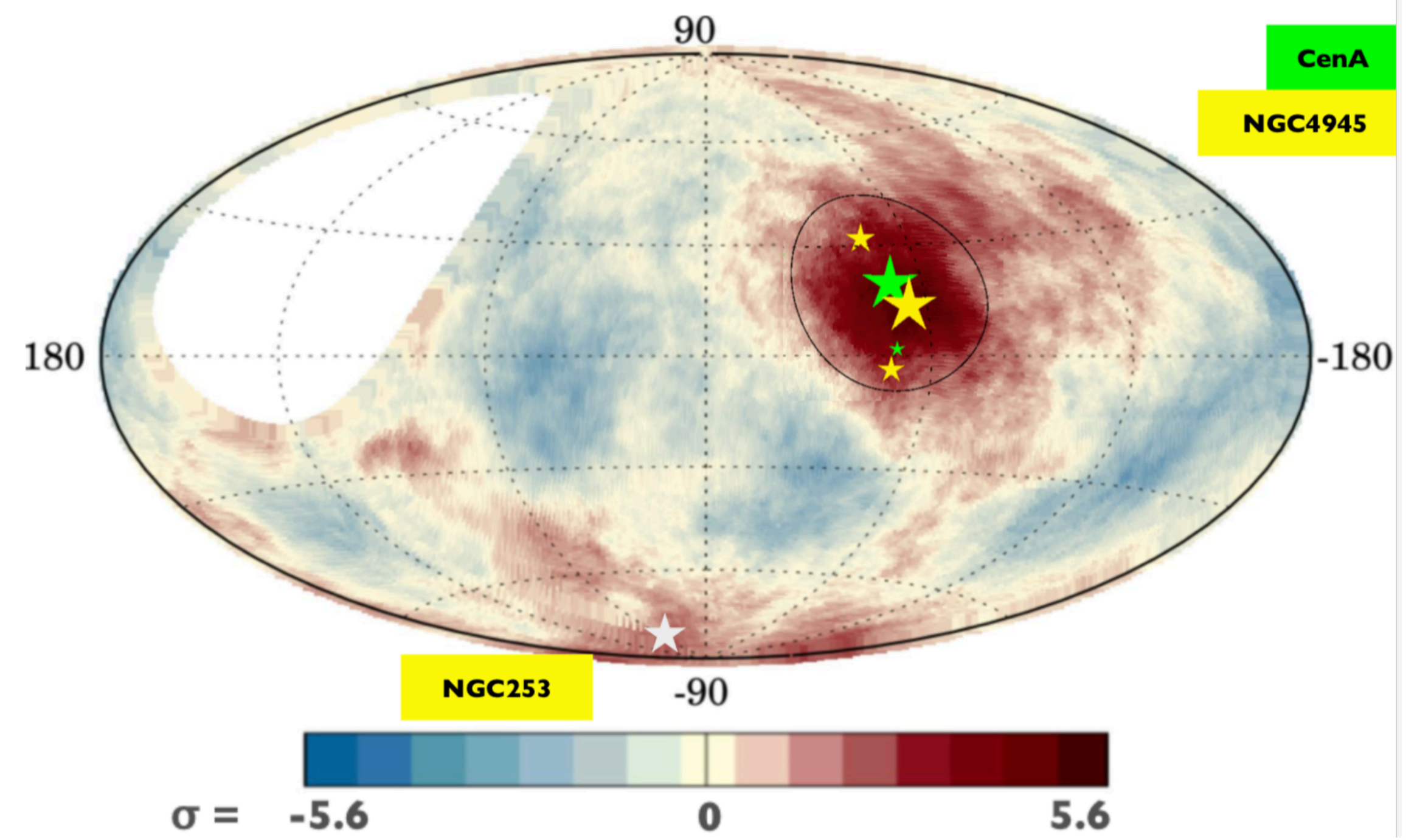
S.S. + L Anchordoqui, ...

The spectrum:  
clear structures

# Anisotropies & Correlations



where do these  
particle & structures  
come from ?

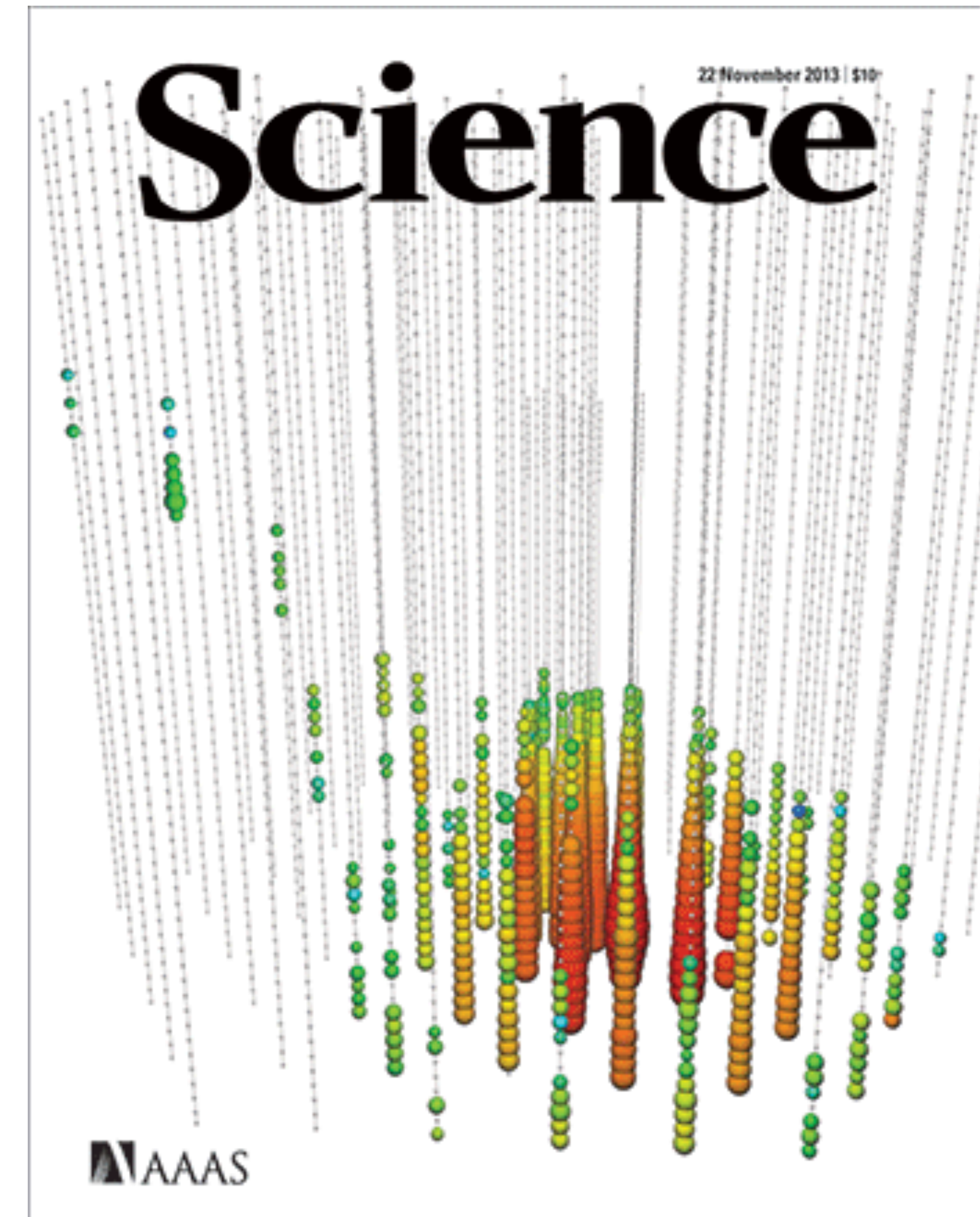


# 2013: The “birth” of (high-energy) Neutrino Astronomy

28 high-energy  $\nu$ s

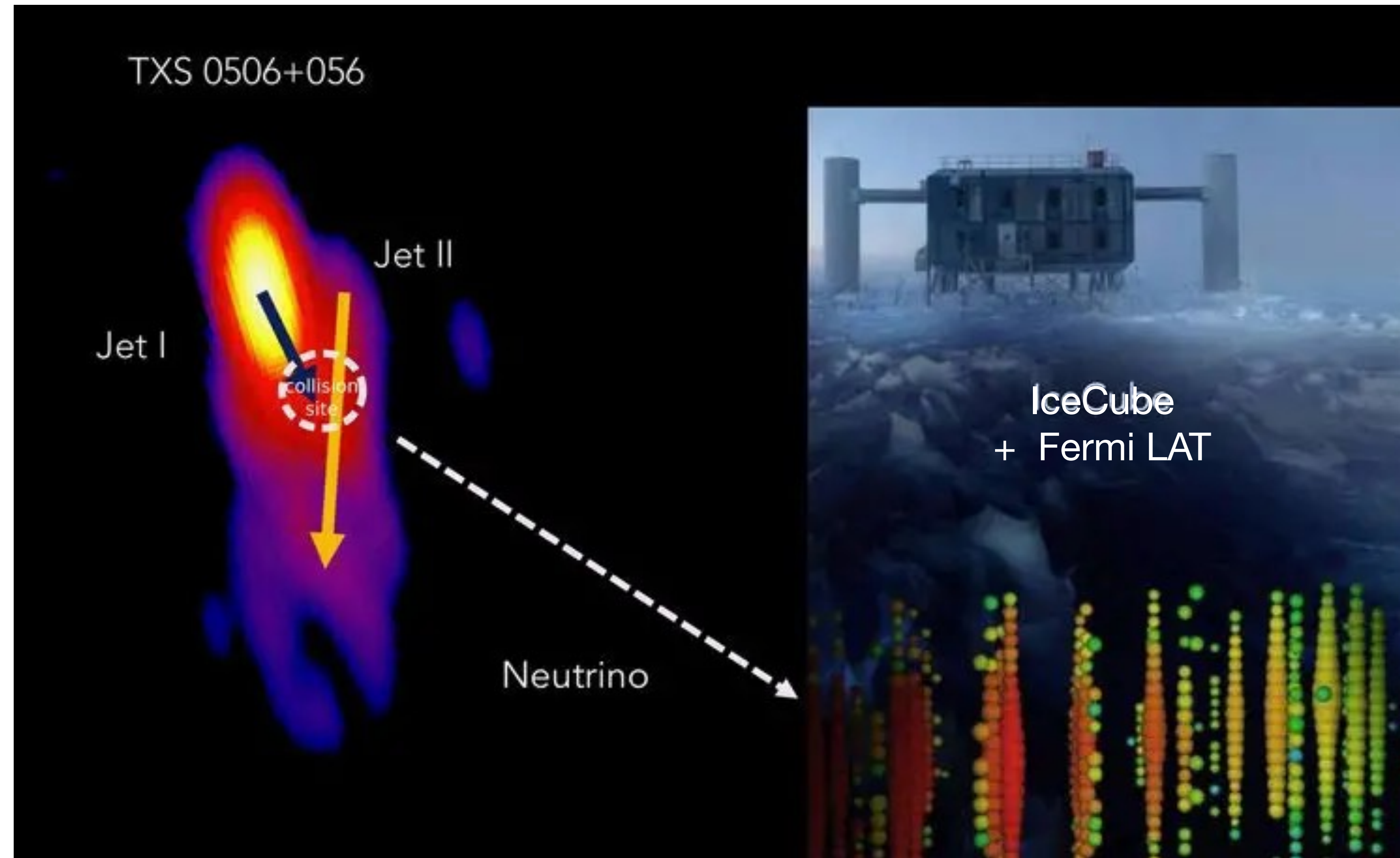
Clear evidence for  
astrophysical origin

( $>5\sigma$ )



# 2018: first neutrino source TXS 0506+056

**seen in  
coincidence  
(space and time)  
with a flare in  
photons ...**



# Multi-messenger observations of a binary neutron star merger

BP Abbott et al. The Astrophysical Journal Letters 848, **2017**, L12 1-59

**>3200 citations**

**3677 authors from  
60 collaborations**

**Great Science result !!**

**but also shows how large the  
Astroparticle Physics Community has grown  
and the power of combined analyses.**

LIGO Scientific Collaboration  
Virgo Collaboration,  
Fermi GBM,  
INTEGRAL,  
**IceCube Collaboration,**  
AstroSat Cadmium Zinc Telluride Imager Team,  
IPN Collaboration,  
The Insight-HXMT Collaboration,  
ANTARES Collaboration,  
The Swift Collaboration,  
AGILE Team,  
The IM2H Team,  
The Dark Energy Camera GW-EM Collaboration  
The DES Collaboration,  
The DLT40 Collaboration,  
GRAWITA  
The Fermi Large Area Telescope Collaboration,  
ATCA: Australia Telescope Compact Array,  
ASKAP: Australian SKA Pathfinder,  
Las Cumbres Observatory Group,  
OzGrav,  
DWF (Deeper, Wider, Faster Program),  
AST3  
CAASTRO Collaborations,  
The VINROUGE Collaboration,  
MASTER Collaboration,  
J-GEM,  
GROWTH,  
JAGWAR,  
Caltech-NRAO,  
TTU-NRAO,  
NuSTAR Collaborations,  
Pan-STARRS,  
The MAXI Team,  
TZAC Consortium,  
KU Collaboration,  
Nordic Optical Telescope, ePESSTO,  
GROND,  
Texas Tech University,  
SALT Group,  
TOROS: Transient Robotic Observatory of the South,  
The BOOTES Collaboration,  
MWA: Murchison Widefield Array,  
The CALET Collaboration,  
IKI-GW Follow-up Collaboration,  
H.E.S.S. Collaboration,  
LOFAR Collaboration,  
LWA: Long Wavelength Array,  
HAWC Collaboration,  
The Pierre Auger Collaboration,  
ALMA Collaboration,  
Euro VLBI Team,  
Pi of the Sky Collaboration,  
The Chandra Team at McGill University,  
DFN: Desert Fireball Network,  
ATLAS,  
High Time Resolution Universe Survey,  
RIMAS,  
RATIR,  
SKA South Africa/MeerKAT

# Cherenkov Telescope Array

The UK had a keen interest in CTA from the outset.  
(involvement in HESS, VERITAS, X-ray Astronomy, ...)

CTA was promising large improvement in  
sensitivity (i.e number of sources,  
energy range (10 GeV ...TeV ...PeV)  
capability for transients  
sky surveys

**Important papers to make the case to funding agencies  
around the world..**

Design concepts for the Cherenkov Telescope Array CTA  
CTA Consortium, Exp. Astronomy 32 (3), 2011, 193-316

Science with the Cherenkov Telescope Array  
CTA Consortium, 2017



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Science with the Cherenkov Telescope Array  
CTA Consortium, 2017

1. Introduction to CTA Science
2. Synergies
3. Core Programme Overview
4. Dark Matter Programme
5. **KSP**: Galactic Centre
6. **KSP**: Galactic Plane Survey
7. **KSP**: LMC Survey
8. **KSP**: Extragalactic Survey
9. **KSP**: Transients
10. **KSP**: Cosmic Ray PeVatrons
11. **KSP**: Star Forming Systems
12. **KSP**: Active Galactic Nuclei
13. **KSP**: Clusters of Galaxies
14. Capabilities beyond Gamma Rays
15. Appendix: Simulating CTA



The UK had a keen interest in CTA from the outset.

(involvement in HESS, VERITAS, X-ray Astronomy, ...)

Durham	P Chadwick, et al,
Leeds	J Knapp (chair of CB) et al.
Leicester	J Hinton (project scientist) et al.
Liverpool	T Greenshaw (SST coordinator)
Oxford	G Cotter, S Sarkar
RAL	N McCubbin

We offered to host the Consortium Meeting, typical 200 participants (of about 1000 members) in Nov. 2010 in the UK.

N McCubbin, S Sarkar organised it in Oxford.

The highlight of the meeting was the **Conference dinner** in the newly renovated Ashmolean Museum.

We visited the Museum, saw some exhibits, got a nice intro from the director, had plenty of drinks and some nibbles, and enjoyed talking to colleagues.

**very nice,  
very posh,  
rather expensive**



But the **nibbles actually were** the dinner !  
All were still hungry, nerves were on edge.

That night, the kebab van  
in front of the museum,  
made the business of a lifetime.

Subir & Norman apologised  
profusely to the meeting  
the other morning.

**An unforgettable meeting  
for all involved.**



## Subir, a great educator / communicator

countless lectures for students  
research talks for physics colleagues  
talks to the wider public on science and  
the role of Science in Society

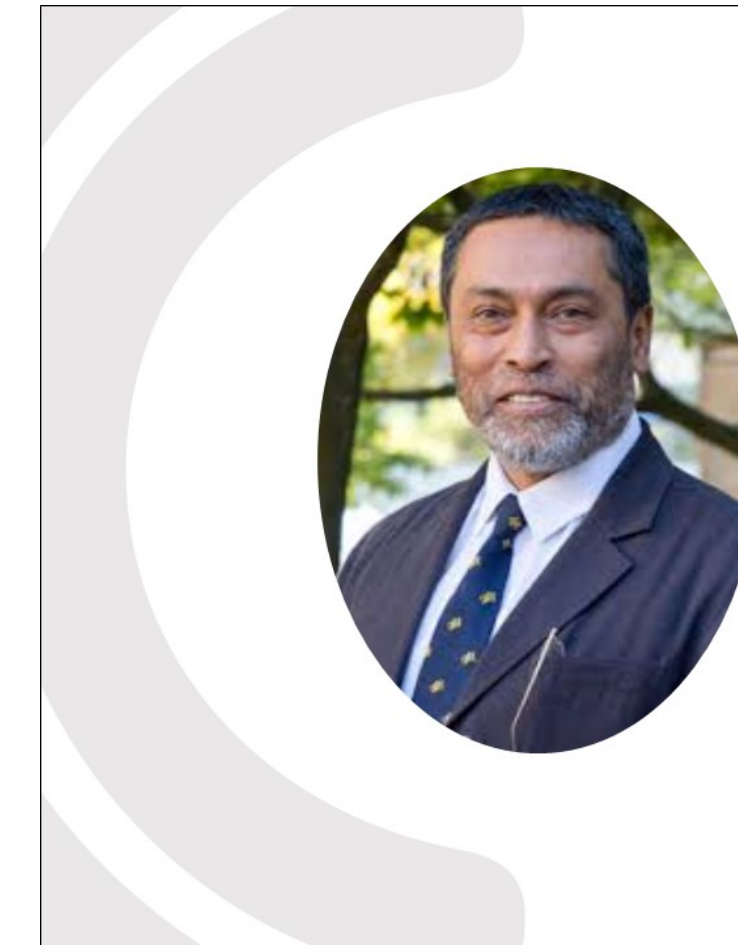
Subir picked good students and trained them exceptionally well (by example).

He had (and still has) many engagements at Indian universities and research labs,  
e.g. the bi-annual Winter School on Astroparticle Physics (TIFR, Bose Institute)  
several adjunct professorships at Indian universities

1988-89 work for an Indian NGO (Eklavya, Bhopal) on science education and popularisation  
after the Bhopal chemical disaster in 1984.

Together with his wife Mandy.

Since 2007, Subir has been a trustee of the BMA (Bhopal Medical Appeal)  
still seeking justice for survivors of the accident.



**Prof. Subir Sarkar**

Head, Particle Theory Group, The Rudolf Peierls Centre  
for Theoretical Physics, University of Oxford

**SHOULD SCIENTISTS  
BE ACTIVISTS?**

September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Yes !**

## Academic Service:

- \* Member, Particle Data Group (2001– )
- \* **Advisory Board:** Sant Cugat Forum on Astrophysics (2012– );  
Helmholtz Alliance on Astroparticle Physics (2012–17);  
Gruber Cosmology Prize (2014–20);  
Institute of Physics, Universiteit van Amsterdam (2016-21)
- \* **Editorial Board:** SciPost (2016– ),  
Pramana (2013–20),  
European Physical Journal C (2012–15)
- \* Scientific Council, International Center for Theoretical Physics Asia-Pacific, Beijing (2018–)
- \* Steering Committee, European Centre for Astroparticle Theory (2019–20)
- \* Member, Scientific & Technology Advisory Committee, KM3NeT (2013–20); Requirements Review Panel, CTA (2012)
- \* Member, IUPAP Commission C4: Astroparticle Physics (2022–25);  
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Science Advisory Committee, ASPERA (2007–12);  
Science Vision Working Group, ASTRONET (2006–08)
- \* Steering Committee, Astroparticle Physics Group, UK Institute of Physics (2006-08)
- \* Coordinator, EU Marie Curie Research & Training Networks: UniverseNet (2006–10), Supersymmetry & the Early Universe (2000–04); Member, EU Marie Curie Initial Training Network: UniLHC (2009–13)
- \* Chair, Consultation Panel on Astroparticle Physics, STFC Programmatic Review (2008)
- \* Co-ordinator, Oxford-India Network on Theoretical Physical Sciences (2006–21)
- \* **Referee:** EC, ERC, ESA; FNU, Denmark; AERES, France; Humboldt Stiftung, DFG & Helmholtz Gemeinschaft, Germany;  
Ministry of Education, Greece; DAE & DST, India; ANVUR & INFN, Italy; NWO, Netherlands; Royal Society of New Zealand;  
NRF, South Africa; SNSF, Switzerland; Leverhulme Trust, Royal Society, EPSRC & STFC, UK; DoE & NSF, USA

*Subir,  
when are you sleeping ???*

# Subir and the International Cosmic Ray Conferences



International Union for  
Pure and Applied Physics

**Chair** of the intl. program committee (section NU)  
ICRC 2019 (Madison) &  
**ICRC 2021 (Berlin)**

... a formidable task to assess and sort  $\approx 250$  contributions,  
which he performed brilliantly (chair of the team)

since 2021: member of the IUPAP commission  
**C4: Astroparticle Physics** for the UK

since 1947  
bi-annual conferences  
of the **C4: Cosmic Rays**

since 2013  
**C4: Astroparticle Physics**

# ONLINE ICRC 2021

THE ASTROPARTICLE PHYSICS CONFERENCE  
Berlin | Germany

37<sup>th</sup> International  
Cosmic Ray Conference  
12–23 July 2021



## Subir's Awards:

Indian National Science Talent Scholarship, 1969–78

Advanced Fellowship, UK Particle Physics & Astronomy Research Council, 1992-97

Senior Fellowship, UK Science & Technology Facilities Council, 2006–09

**Niels Bohr Professorship, University of Copenhagen, 2013–18**

**Bhabha Medal & Prize by TIFR and IUPAP, 2017**

Awards with the IceCube Collaboration

## Various visiting professorships:

Adjunct Professor,

Associate,

Associate,

Adjunct Professor,

Adjunct Professor,

Raman Research Institute, 2019–22

Discovery Center, Niels Bohr Institute, Copenhagen, 2010–20

Institute of Particle Physics Phenomenology, Durham, 2011–12

Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Kolkata, 2008–13

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, 2006–09

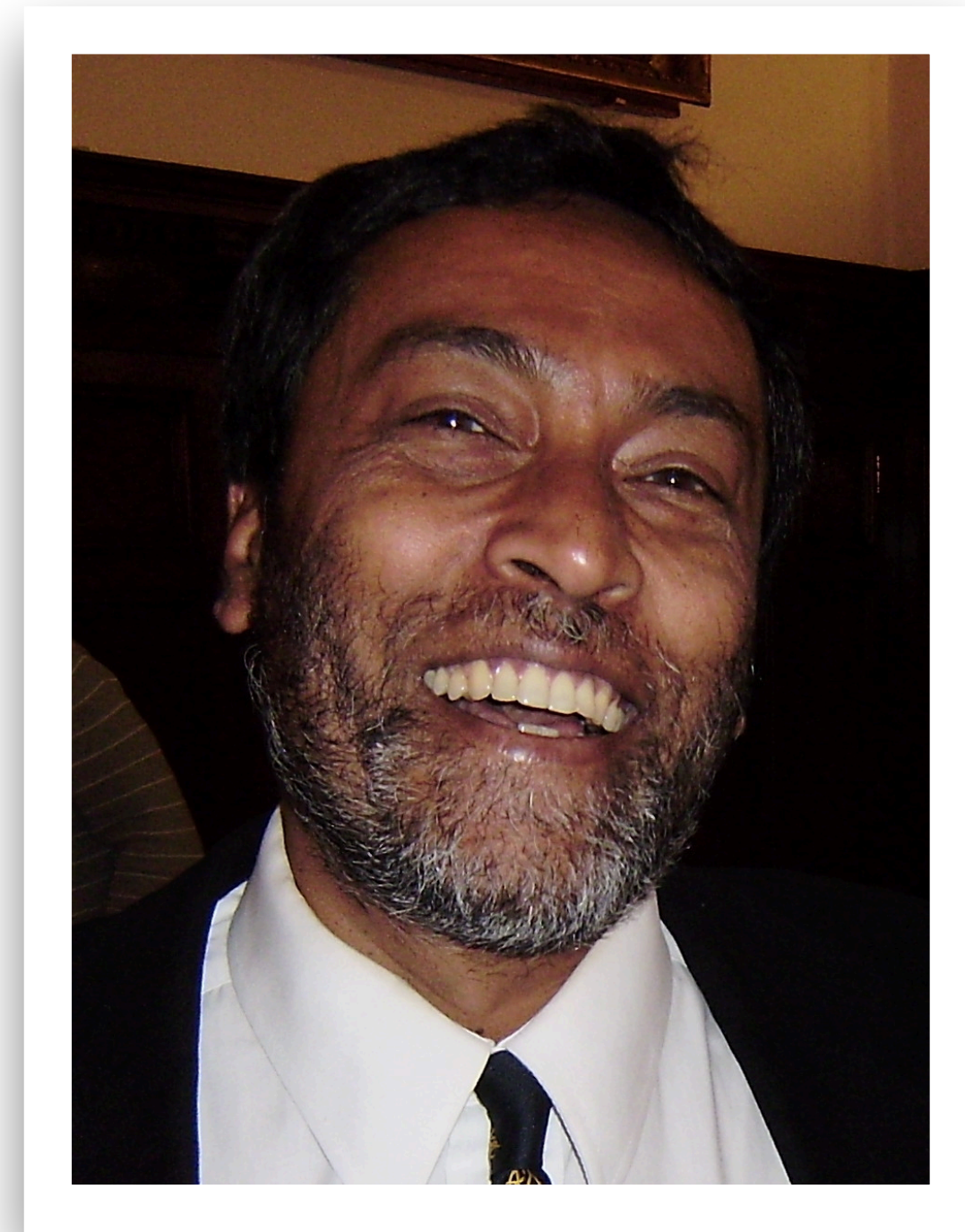


# Homi Bhabha Medal & Prize

**Subir was honoured with the  
2017 Homi Bhabha Medal & Prize  
by TIFR & IUPAP**

for his

**“Distinguished contributions  
in the field of high-energy  
cosmic ray physics and  
astroparticle physics over an  
extended academic career.”**



**A worthy winner ...  
in very good company**



A Wolfendale,



H Völk,



T Gaisser,



T Kajita,



F Halzen

# **Subir has done very well ...**

**Scientific output:** +++

**Teaching & outreach:** +++

**Academic Service:** +++

**Awards:** +++

# **The Boom in Astroparticle Physics**

**Cosmic rays, gamma rays, neutrinos, grav. waves**  
**... the situation in 1990**  
**(i.e. 33 years ago)**

**world community  $\approx$  200 persons (?)**

# Cosmic Rays 1990

CR Spectrum measured with ground arrays  
(scintillators, water tanks, air fluorescence)

Steep spectrum, difficult to measure.

Poor quality, mostly too small detectors, low statistics

**unknown:** mass composition, sources, systematics

Linsley 1963: 1 event at  $\approx 10^{20}$  eV

Fly's Eye 1991: 1 event at  $3 \times 10^{20}$  eV

Interactions with CMB: **GZK Cutoff** in the UHE CR spectrum,? **local sources?**

Experiments disagreed on spectrum near GZK energy:

cut-off or not ??? top-down production of  $> 10^{20}$  eV ? top. defects ?

at UHE: no ankle, no GZK cut-off

SNR, Fermi acceleration at strong shocks,  
Radio (synchrotron),  
X-rays to study acceleration in SNRs

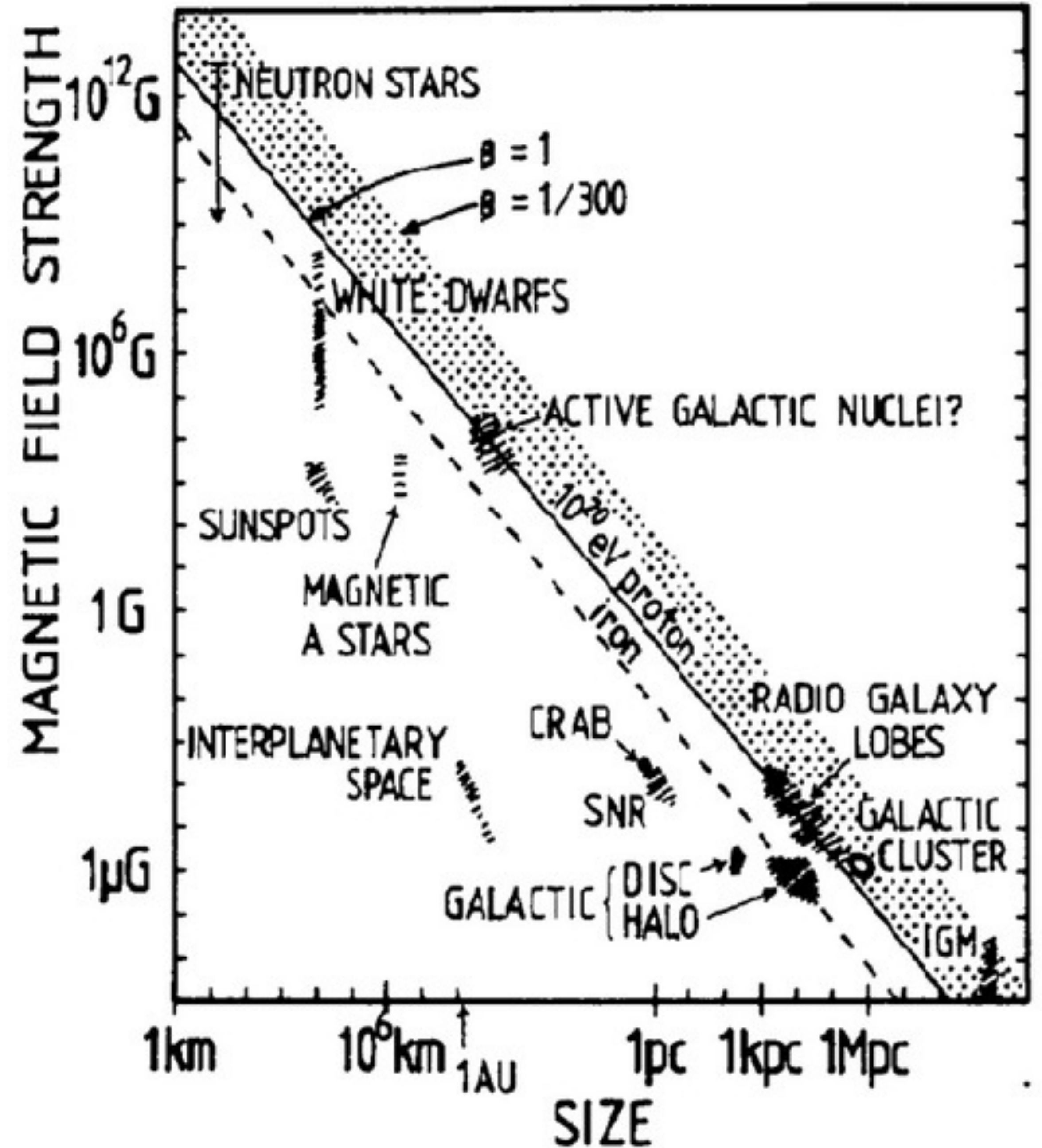
SNR for higher energies?

UHECR ???



**1984: Hillas Plot**  
Spectrum ??  
Composition ???

$$B L > \text{const. } E / Z$$



# Cosmic Rays today

balloon expts: HEAT, Cresst, Tracer, Cream, ... LD balloon flights  
Space expts. ... **CGRO**, **Fermi**, Pamela, **AMS** ...

particle identification,  
years of operation.

EAS top, EAS100, ..., **Kascade**, **Kascade Grande**, IceTop, ...

$e, \gamma, \mu, h$

**CORSIKA** + QGSjet, EPOS, GEANT  
numerical simulations of high-energy atmospheric cascades

Akeno vs Flys Eye, AGASA vs Hires,  
particle arrays vs Fluorescence detectors

**Auger** vs TA, ...

$e, \gamma, \mu$

Hybrid expts. (array + fluorescence)  
Radio detection of air showers  
FD from space ???

water Cherenkov + Fluorescence,  
atmospheric monitoring  
charged particle astronomy at UHEs?

**Mag. field amplification**, particle acceleration in sources,  
propagation in gal and extragal fields: Galprop, CRPropa,  
**simulations of acceleration processes in sources**

**Multi parameters, messenger approach**

**multivariate analyses, ...**  
**massive computing power,**

# Gamma Rays 1990

suggested since the 1950s: e.g. Crab nebula, TeV energies to be measured via air showers and Cherenkov light.

enhanced fluxes from certain spots? no success

Kiel array **Cyg-X3**: CASA-MIA, Hegera ,  
Many false alarms.

1989: Whipple 10 m Cherenkov telescope (built in 1968)

- + pixelated camera for imaging,
- + clever image analysis (Hillas parameters)

**Crab Nebula,  $9\sigma$  significance** after 50 h our observation

# Historic Timeline

Ingredients ready		1948			
Whipple 10-m telescope built		1968			
..... first detection					~40 years
Crab Nebula	PWN	1989	Whipple		
Markarian 421	HBL	1992	Whipple		
Markarian 501	HBL	1996	Whipple		
3C66A	IBL	1998	Crimea		
IES 2344+514	HBL	1998	Whipple		
PKS 2155-304	HBL	1999	Durham Mark 6		
IES 1959+650	HBL	1999	Telescope Array		
RX J1713.7-3946	Shell	2000	Cangaroo		
Cas A	Shell	2001	HEGRA	<=== stereo	
Bl Lac	IBL	2001	Crimea		
H 1426+428	HBL	2002	Whipple		
TeV J2032+4130	UNID	2002	HEGRA		
M87	FRI	2003	HEGRA		
Galactic Centre	UNID	2004	Cangaroo		
..... HESS started observations					~10 years
... 16 new sources		2005			
... 17 new sources		2006			
					~5 years

**272 sources**

**2023:**

+ MAGIC, VERITAS  
**from many source types.**



# TeV astronomy highlights

from **HESS**, **MAGIC** and **VERITAS**  
**Descartes & Rossi Prize for HESS**

Supernova remnants:	Nature	432 (2004) 75	
Microquasars:	Science	309 (2005) 746	Science 312 (2006) 1771
Pulsars:	Science	322 (2008) 1221	Science 334 (2011) 69
Galactic Centre:	Nature	439 (2006) 695	Nature 531 (2016) 476
Galactic Survey:	Science	307 (2005) 1839	
LMC:	Science	347 (2015) 406	
Black Holes:	Science	346 (2014) 1080	
Starbursts:	Nature	462 (2009) 770	Science 326 (2009) 1080
Active Galactic Nuclei:	Science	314 (2006) 1424	Science 325 (2009) 444
EBL:	Nature	440 (2006) 1018	Science 320 (2008) 752
Dark Matter:	PRL	96 (2006) 221102	PRL 106 (2011) 161301
	PRL	114 (2015) 081301	PRL 110 (2013) 41301
Lorentz Invariance:	PRL	101 (2008) 170402	
Cosmic Ray Electrons:	PRL	101 (2008) 261104	.... plus many more

+ **many** papers in other journals  
... a booming field.

Currently 272 sources  
many different source types:

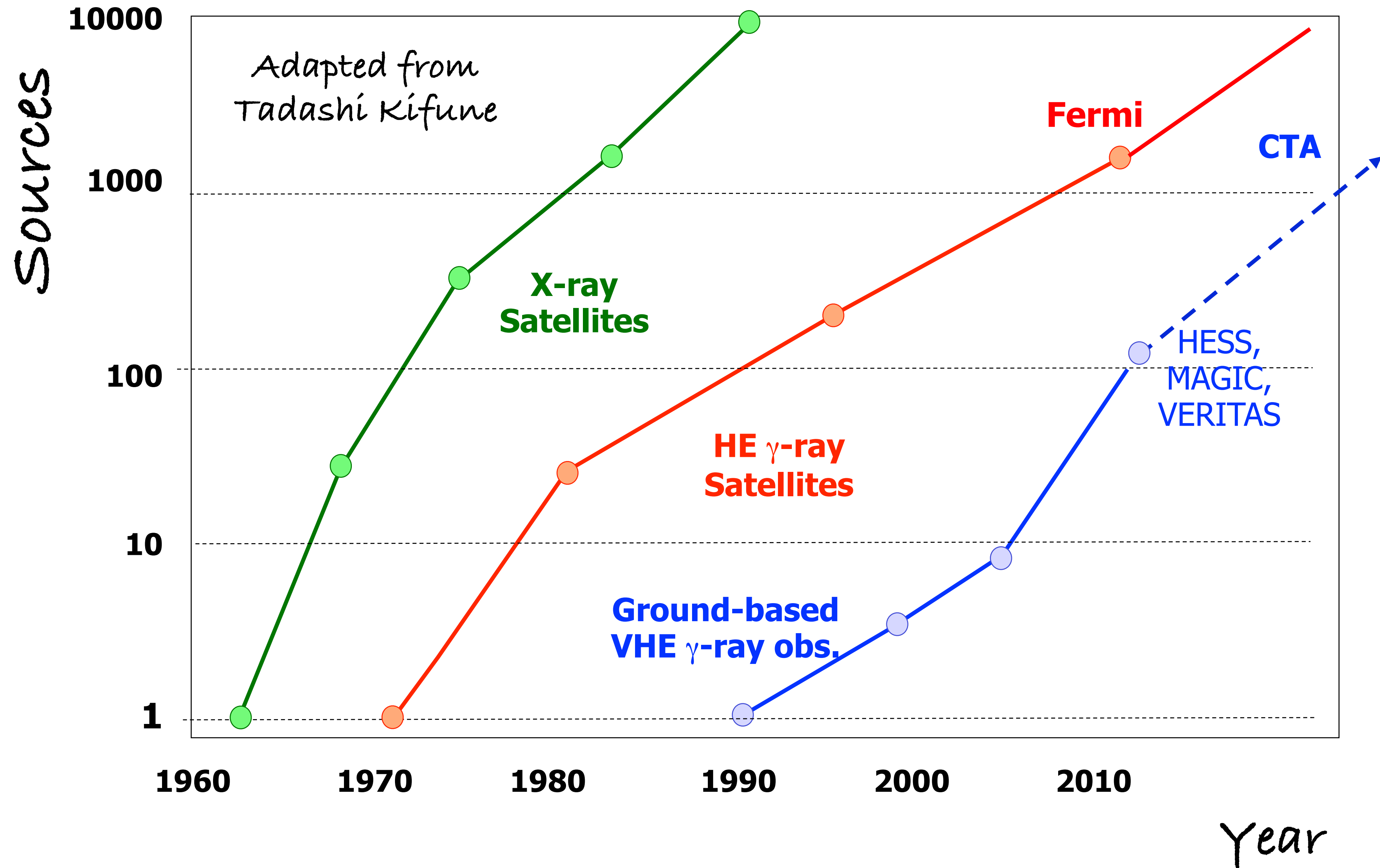
gamma ray are  
almost everywhere

SNRs  
Novae  
Bombarded molecular clouds  
Colliding wind binaries  
Massive stellar clusters  
Pulsars & PWNs  
Microquasar jets  
Supermassive black hole Str A\*

Starburst galaxies  
Milky Way satellites  
Radio galaxies  
flat-spectrum radio quasars  
BL Lacs  
Gamma ray bursts

# Source Number

Gamma-Ray Astronomy goes "mainstream"



# Gamma Rays today

Cherenkov telescopes: Whipple, **HESS, MAGIC, VERITAS, CTA** high sensitivity, transients  
**LHAASO, HAWC, SWGO** full sky coverage, PeV sources

Satellite instruments: CGRO, **Fermi**, ....

large progress in technology, methods, calibration, analysis, ...

**Multi wavelengths: el.mag. radiation, cross alerting with satellites, transients,  
neutrino and grav.wave events**

# Neutrinos 1990

old idea (1970s) to use neutrinos for astronomy.  
**travel straight, are not absorbed**

**1990:** SN 1987a: neutrinos seen !!

Indications of deficit in muon neutrinos: oscillations ?

DUMAND: underwater telescope in ocean: plans and tests, but termination in 1995

Baikal: 1. string deployed.  
saw later also the first neutrino track

# Neutrinos today

from 1994 planning for neutrino detection in Antarctic ice.

Operation:           1996–2009   AMANDA  
                          2010–       **IceCube** ( $\approx 1 \text{ km}^3$ )

KM3NeT   construction since 2015, partly operational.

2013: **breakthrough of the year 2013: IceCube**

2018: **first neutrino source TXS 0506+056   IceCube and Fermi-LAT**

many exciting results....   astrophysical neutrinos,  
                                  flavour ratios, oscillations  
                                  correlation with el.mag. outbursts

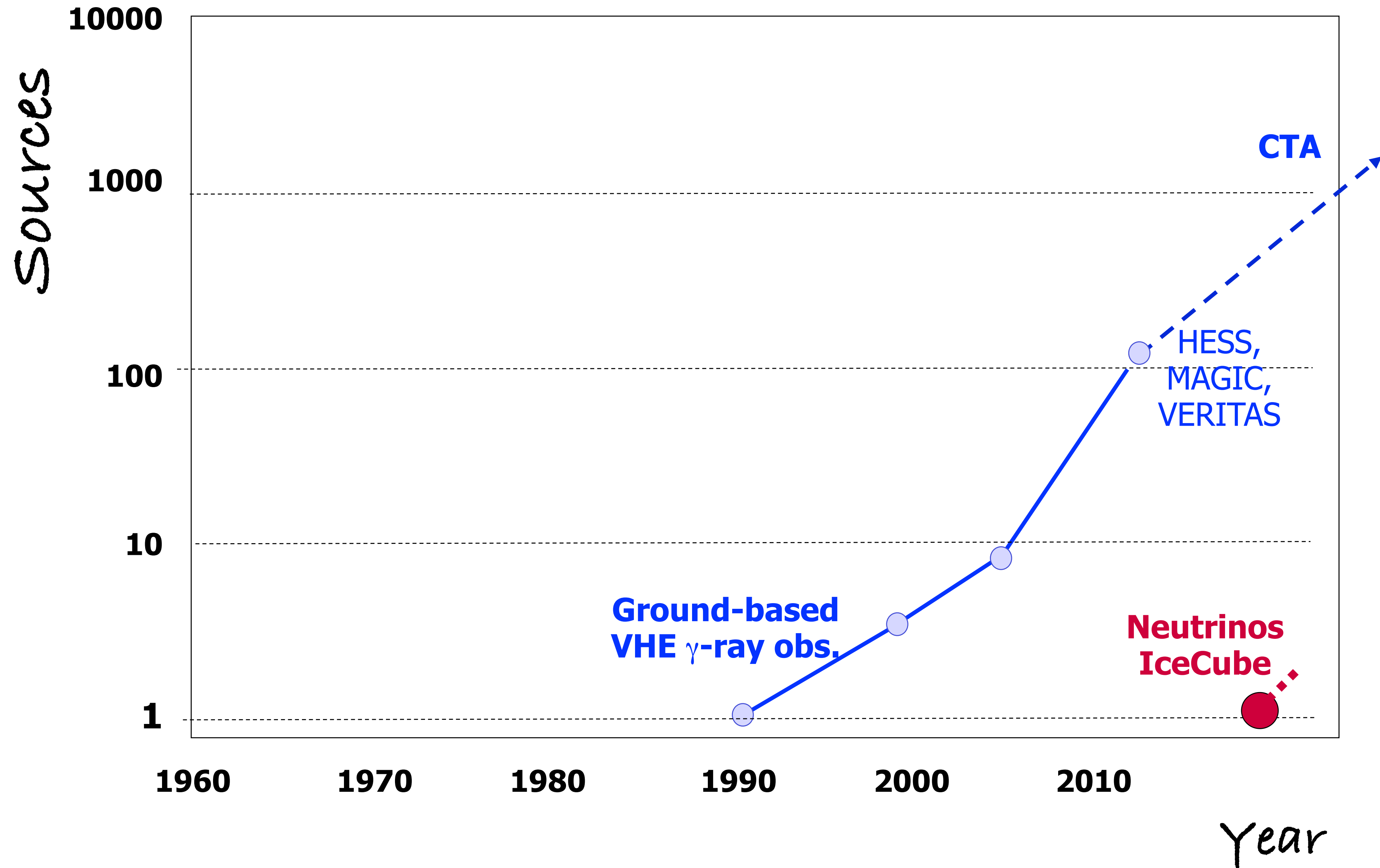
Plans for **IceCube Gen-2**,    $\approx 10 \text{ km}^3$  , a denser center, a larger top array

large progress in technology, methods, calibration, analysis, ...  
                                  develop radio detection ...

**Multi messenger: cross alerting with el.mag. radiation,  
                                  from satellites, transients and grav.wave events**

# Source Number

Identified Neutrino sources



# Grav. waves 1990:

old prediction (1916), but very difficult to detect.

1980s: Hulse & Taylor  
indirect evidence: period change of a double pulsar system  
confirmed predictions of GRT.

several experimental activities (for direct detection) with  
Webber bars, early interferometers, ...  
hopelessly lacking sensitivity for a detection.  
It seemed too ambitious...

**Thus, in 1990 for most Astrophysicists this was just not on the radar yet.**



# Grav. waves today:

**1994–2002** construction of LIGO interferometer

2008–2015 upgrade to **Advanced LIGO**

... battling down the background noise

2015 first BH-BH merger detected.

until now many (hundreds) events were recorded,  
partly also seen in el.mag. radiation

**next round of improvements underway.**

**“A revolutionary new view on the universe”**

... with stunning results and great new potential

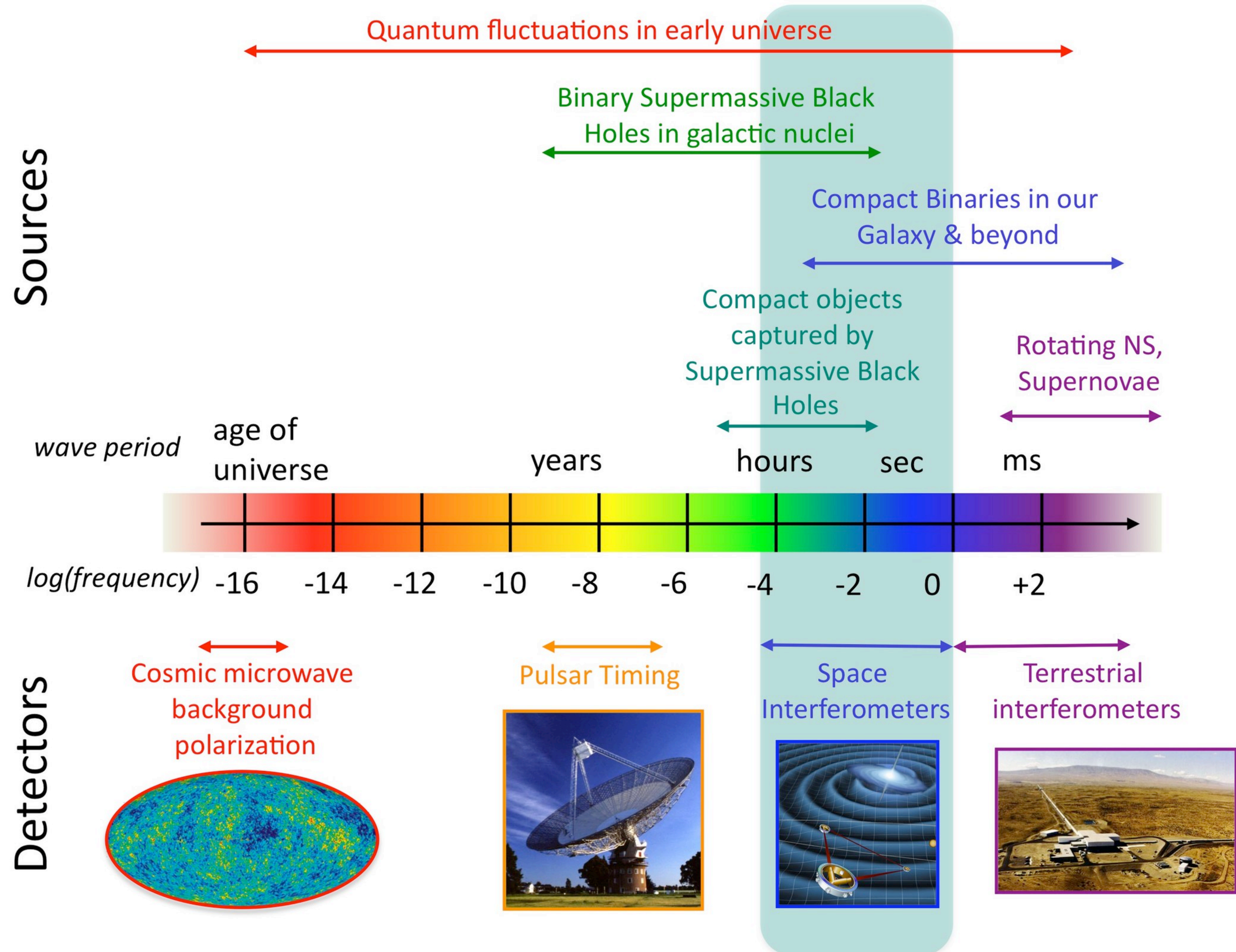
Gravitational waves efforts:

LIGO, Geo600, Virgo, **adv. LIGO+GEO, VIRGO, KAGRA, ...**

**ET, Cosmic Explorer ...**

**LISA, PTAs, CMB**

# The Gravitational Wave Spectrum



## **10 Nobel Prizes in Physics for work relevant to Astroparticle Physics**

### [The Nobel Prize in Physics 2020](#)

Roger Penrose “**black hole formation** is a robust prediction of the GRT”

Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez “supermassive compact object at the centre of our galaxy”

### [The Nobel Prize in Physics 2019](#)

James Peebles “theoretical **discoveries in physical cosmology**”

### [The Nobel Prize in Physics 2017](#)

Rainer Weiss, Barry C. Barish and Kip S. Thorne “observation of **gravitational waves**”

### [The Nobel Prize in Physics 2015](#)

Takaaki Kajita and Arthur B. McDonald “**neutrino oscillations**, which shows that neutrinos have mass”

### [The Nobel Prize in Physics 2011](#)

Saul Perlmutter, Brian P. Schmidt and Adam G. Riess “**accelerating expansion of the Universe**”

### [The Nobel Prize in Physics 2006](#)

John C. Mather and George F. Smoot “blackbody form and **anisotropy of the CMBR**”

### [The Nobel Prize in Physics 2002](#)

Raymond Davis Jr. and Masatoshi Koshiba “detection of **cosmic neutrinos**”

### [The Nobel Prize in Physics 1995](#)

Frederick Reines “**detection of the neutrino**”

### [The Nobel Prize in Physics 1993](#)

Russell A. Hulse and Joseph H. Taylor Jr. “**pulsars** as possibility **to study gravitation**”

### [The Nobel Prize in Physics 1983](#)

Subramanyan Chandrasekhar “physical processes on **structure and evolution of the stars**”

William Alfred Fowler “nuclear reactions for the formation of the **chemical elements in the universe**”

**HUGE scientific progress in APP** since 1990!

**new communities** have formed (national and international)

**world community** now **> 10000**

substantial **funding** was obtained

new **Journals** for APP, lots of papers ...

**new institutes & positions** at universities and research labs.

IUPAP: **Astroparticle Physics Commission** (C4, renamed from cosmic rays)

....

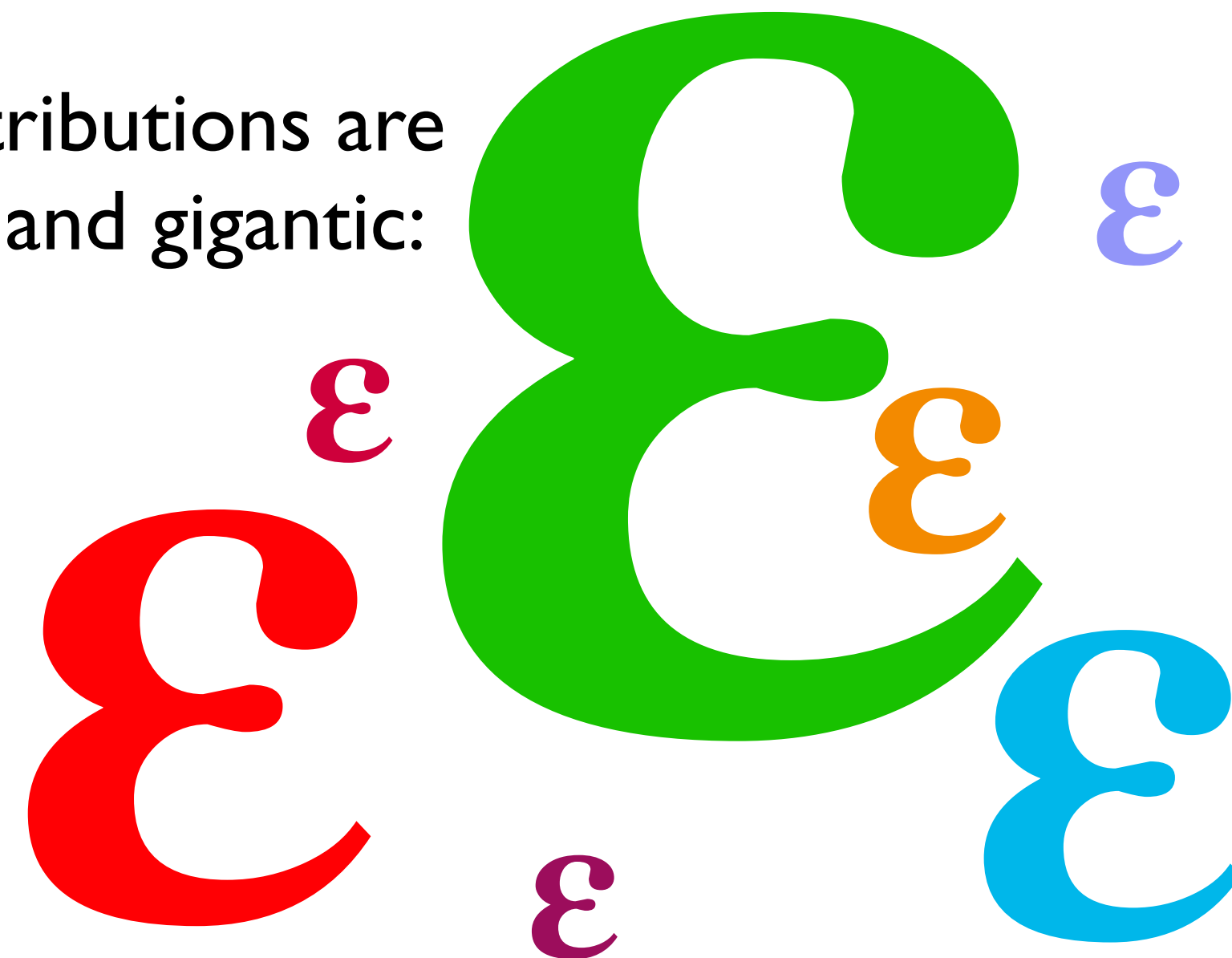
The last 40 years in Astroparticle Physics  
very exciting times !!! truly a **boom period.**

Everyone of us has contributed an  $\epsilon$  to this success.

The last 40 years in Astroparticle Physics  
very exciting times !!! truly a **boom period.**

Everyone of us has contributed an  $\epsilon$  to this success.

But **Subir's** contributions are  
very wide-spread and gigantic:



We admire very much Subir's  
**professional qualities**,  
his **courage** to think  
**“outside the box”**  
and his **humane character** .

and ...

Subir is an  
**independent mind &**  
**deep thinker.**

We admire very much Subir's **professional qualities**, his **courage** to think **“outside the box”** and his **humane character** .

and ...

Subir is an **independent mind & deep thinker**.



... may be helped by living partly on the remote Greek island Hydra, with a good mix of Sun, sea, meditation, good food, yoga and physics ?



**Now at 70:**

Will he “**retire**” to his retreat and become a gardener?

**Probably not ...**

he is still active and going strong ...



Another Oxford Professor may serve as a good example:

**D.H. Perkins** has written his most-cited few-author paper at the age of **77**, it became the second-most-cited work in his long and distinguished career.

Tri-bimaximal mixing and the neutrino oscillation data

P.F. Harrison, D.H. Perkins, W.G. Scott,  
Phys.Lett. B 530 (2002) 167

**> 1600 citations**  
and still counting

... and Don Perkins was **very proud** of this.

**So, go Subir, go ...**



**Subir ... my role model**



**Subir ... my role model**

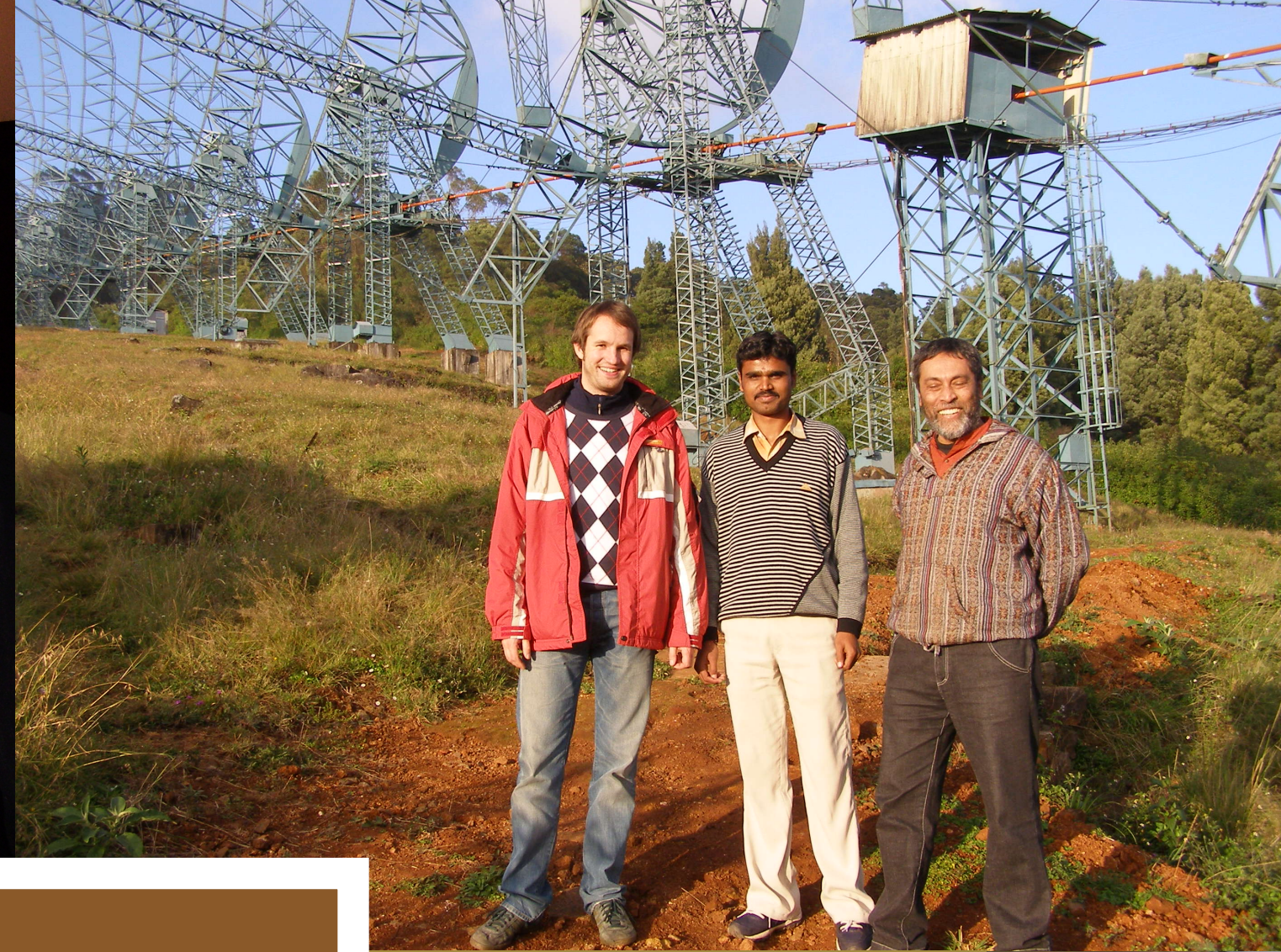


**(at least in some activities)**



**Happy Birthday,  
Subir!**

**Thanks for all your work,  
all the best for many  
good years to come,  
& thanks for your friendship.**



Some photos ...

